



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Scrutiny Programme Committee

At: Remotely via Microsoft Teams

On: Tuesday, 15 December 2020

Time: 4.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Peter Black CBE

Membership:

Councillors: C Anderson, J E Burtonshaw, M C Child, E W Fitzgerald, J A Hale, D W Helliwell, T J Hennegan, P K Jones, W G Lewis, G J Tanner, W G Thomas and T M White

Statutory Co-opted Members: D Anderson-Thomas and A Roberts

Councillor Co-opted Members: C A Holley, P R Hood-Williams, S M Jones, L R Jones and J W Jones

Watch Online: <https://bit.ly/3my5C3A>

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 at 4.00 pm

Huw Evans

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Tuesday, 8 December 2020

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel (01792) 636923

Agenda Item 4



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Scrutiny Programme Committee**

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday, 17 November 2020 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor P M Black (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

C Anderson
D W Helliwell
G J Tanner

Councillor(s)

M C Child
P K Jones
W G Thomas

Councillor(s)

E W Fitzgerald
W G Lewis
T M White

Statutory Co-opted Member(s)

A Roberts

Councillor Co-opted Member(s)

P R Hood-Williams S M Jones J W Jones

Also Present

Councillor Rob Stewart Leader / Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy

Officer(s)

Adam Hill	Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Resources
Kate Jones	Democratic Services Officer
Brij Madahar	Scrutiny Team Leader
Martin Nicholls	Director of Place
Phil Roberts	Chief Executive
Debbie Smith	Deputy Chief Legal Officer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): J E Burtonshaw

Councillor Co-opted Members: C A Holley and L R Jones

4 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interest.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

5 Prohibition of Whipped Votes and Declaration of Party Whips.

In accordance with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, no declarations of Whipped Votes or Party Whips were declared.

6 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Scrutiny Programme Committees held on 15 September 2020 and 1 October 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

7 Public Question Time.

There were no public questions.

8 Role of the Scrutiny Programme Committee.

The Chair welcomed Councillors Mark Child and June Burtonshaw to the Scrutiny Programme Committee. He also welcomed, subject to Committee approval, Councillor Susan Jones as Convenor of the Adult Services Performance Panel and Co-optee of the Scrutiny Programme Committee.

The Scrutiny Team Leader presented the report on the 'Role of the Scrutiny Programme Committee'

Resolved that:

- 1) The co-option of Scrutiny Performance Panel convenors to the Committee be agreed; and
- 2) The co-option of partner organisations to enable representatives to participate in the Committee's scrutiny of the Public Service Board be agreed.

9 Update on COVID-19 Response and Recovery Planning.

The Leader / Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy, the Chief Executive, the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Place were present for the Committee's consideration of the Council's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and recovery planning.

The Chief Executive highlighted some updates which included: -

- Impact of the second wave
- Supporting businesses through the firebreak
- Developments of vaccines and preparation for roll out of mass vaccination
- Management of immigration from Denmark following the Covid-19 mutation in mink
- Impact and resources for Test, Trace and Protect
- Additional issues other than COVID-19 challenging the Council, including weather and flooding
- Monitoring staff well-being
- Monitoring requirement of the field hospital
- Support for the City Centre
- Progress of Swansea Central Phase 1 regeneration project

Questions and discussions with the Leader and Officers focused on the following:

- Progress of information / conversation on vaccinations and priority areas
- Impact on staff should the field hospital be required
- Scale of people arriving from Denmark – known cases had been contacted and advised to isolate
- Position of large retailers in Swansea
- The three phases (remobilise, refocus & reshape) and timescales of the Recovery Plan
- Clarification of the reshape phase – Review of the Corporate Plan, Capital Plan and Workforce
- Transformation Strategy 2022 – 2026 – Inclusion of further legislation e.g. Environment Act as well as Brexit – further detail to be included in the Action Plan
- Potential impacts of Brexit

The Chair thanked the Leader and Officers.

Resolved that the Chair of Scrutiny Programme Committee write to the Leader, reflecting the discussion and sharing the views of the Committee.

10 Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22.

The Scrutiny Team Leader presented a report on the Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22 for consideration and highlighted the following: -

- Papers from the Work Planning Conference held on the 13 October 2020, outlined at Appendix 1 of the report;
- The summary of topics suggested outlined at Appendix 2 of the report; and
- The draft Scrutiny Programme 2020/22 outlined at Appendix 3 of the report.

The Committee held a discussion on the draft Work Programme that centred around the following: -

- Topics being aligned with the Corporate Priorities and focused on areas of concern.
- The move away from routine Question and Answer Sessions with Cabinet Members to allow time for topical issues in Committee meetings
- Resumption of the Procurement Inquiry Panel
- Scrutiny of the Public Services Board to be carried out by the Scrutiny Programme Committee instead of a separate performance panel
- Change of frequency of the Adult, Child & Family and the Natural Environment Performance Panels
- Working Groups proposed for Workforce, Digital Inclusion, Bus Services and Healthy City
- Flexibility to look at issues that arise through the year

The work plans for the Audit Committee and the Policy Development Committees were provided for awareness to help identify and avoid duplication of work.

The impact of COVID-19 was also highlighted as a consideration on resources and scrutiny activity, and could affect the delivery of the work programme.

Resolved that:

- 1) The draft Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/22 be agreed.
- 2) The proposed Committee work plan be agreed

11 Membership of Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups.

The Chair presented a report on 'Membership of Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups'.

Resolved that:

- 1) Councillor Peter Black be added to the Service Improvement & Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel;
- 2) Councillor Mike Day be added to the Child & Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel;
- 3) Councillor Peter Jones be removed from the Child & Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel;
- 4) Councillors Peter Black and Peter Jones be removed from the Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel;
- 5) Councillor Louise Gibbard be removed from any Panels and Working Groups; and
- 6) The Performance Panel Conveners be noted as follows:

Performance Panel	Convener
Adult Services	Councillor Susan Jones (newly appointed)
Education	Councillor Lyndon Jones (re-appointed)
Child & Family Services	Councillor Paxton Hood-Williams (re-appointed)
Development & Regeneration	Councillor Jeff Jones (re-appointed)
Service Improvement & Finance	Councillor Chris Holley (re-appointed)
Natural Environment (meeting planned for 14 December)	tbc (currently Councillor Peter Jones)

12 Scrutiny Letters.

The Chair presented a report on 'Scrutiny Letters' for information.

Resolved that the scrutiny letters log be noted.

13 Date and Time of Upcoming Panel / Working Group Meetings.

The dates and times of the upcoming Panel / Working Group meetings were **noted**.

The Chair advised that the next Committee meeting on the 15 December would focus on:

- Scrutiny of the Public Service Board
- Pre-decision scrutiny on a report bound for cabinet on 17 December concerning the Proposed Lease to Mumbles Community Council under the Community Asset Transfer Policy, which relates to the proposed development of a new Skatepark by the Community Council.

The meeting ended at 5.10 pm

Chair

Agenda Item 6



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Scrutiny of Swansea Public Services Board

Purpose:	This report provides background and advice to the Committee in support of its scrutiny of the Public Services Board.
Content:	The report outlines the purpose of scrutiny and relevant advices, and includes the Public Services Board Annual Report 2019/20 as the main item for discussion with lead members of the Public Services Board and lead Council officer(s).
Councillors are being asked to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the information provided, ask questions, and make comments and recommendations as necessary.
Lead Councillor:	Councillor Rob Stewart (Leader / Joint Chair of Public Services Board) and Councillor Andrea Lewis (Leader's Representative / Joint Chair of Public Services Board)
Lead Officer:	Adam Hill, Deputy Chief Executive
Report Author:	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland / Paul Roach

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Swansea Public Services Board (PSB) is the overarching strategic partnership of public service providers in the area. It is a partnership of public service agencies who work together to improve local services. The four Statutory Members of the Board are Swansea Bay University Health Board, Natural Resources Wales, the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, and the Council. The four Statutory Members are the formal decision makers who are responsible for the functioning and activities of the Board. As a statutory member both the Leader and the Chief Executive of the Council (or their representatives) are required to participate by law.

- 1.2 Every local council area in Wales is legally required to have a PSB whose purpose is to work collectively to improve local social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being. This requirement is set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Each PSB is required to carry out an Assessment of Well-being to understand current levels of well-being and what matters most to local communities and to produce a Local Well-being Plan in order to improve well-being.
- 1.3 The PSB also involves ‘invited participants’, who will participate in the same way as a Statutory Member except they will not be involved in formal decision making. They are entitled to make representations to the PSB about the assessments of local well-being and local well-being plan, take part in Board meetings and provide other advice and assistance.

The participants who must be invited are:

- The Welsh Ministers
- The Chief Constable of South Wales Police
- The South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- Probation Service Representative
- Swansea Council of Voluntary Services

In addition, the PSB has chosen to invite a representative of Registered Social Landlords in the area.

However, the Board will not and cannot work in isolation. ‘Other Partners’ in the area have a significant contribution to make. These are bodies and organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

- 1.4 Following a governance review in 2019, Statutory Members and Invited Participants now formally meet together in a ‘Joint Committee’ meeting bi-monthly. The Minutes of the last PSB Joint Committee meeting held on 15 Oct 2020 are **attached** for Committee awareness. The main work of the PSB is discharged via Objective Delivery Task and Finish Groups, each led by a Statutory member. Wider involvement of partners takes place through an informal ‘Partnership Forum meeting every six months with other organisations that have an interest in the well-being of the area e.g. Universities, business forum, environmental forum.
- 1.5 Scrutiny of the local Public Services Board (PSB) has a statutory basis - required by the Well-being of Future Generations Act - but with exact arrangements a matter of local choice. We are required to discharge our statutory role in relation to PSB scrutiny: receiving and acting as a statutory consultee for the PSB Well-being Assessment and Well-being Plan, and considering the PSB’s annual progress report.

- 1.6 The Local Well-being Plan and other information about the Public Services Board can be found online here: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/psb>.

2. Scrutiny Arrangements

- 2.1 Although the Scrutiny Programme Committee is formally designated as the Council Committee for statutory scrutiny of the PSB, scrutiny was previously delegated to a multi-agency standalone Scrutiny Performance Panel. The Committee however agreed in September to carry out future scrutiny of the PSB via Committee Meetings instead of via Performance Panel.
- 2.2 The former Performance Panel was chaired by the chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee and involved the Committee vice-chair and all Performance Panel conveners. All of whom are involved in Committee meetings. The Panel, through local choice, also included in its membership co-opted non-executive partner representatives to reflect the 'core' PSB members. The Committee agreed to continue this arrangement for any Committee meetings where PSB scrutiny is taking place. Any such co-optees should not be acting in an executive capacity for any of the PSB partner agencies.
- 2.3 The Committee will need to discharge its statutory role in relation to PSB scrutiny and allocate sufficient meeting time accordingly. As well as being consulted upon on the PSB's Well-being Needs Assessment and Well-being Plan, it should each year receive the PSB Annual Report, and consider progress against agreed PSB Well-being Plan objectives in order to consider the effectiveness of the PSB and difference being made. It is envisaged that this will involve two or three Committee meetings per year.
- 2.4 The PSB is also accountable to Welsh Government Ministers and the Future Generations Commissioner, either of whom can refer the Well-being plan or the Well-being Assessment to scrutiny if they feel it is not adequate.

Scrutiny councillors have the power to:

- review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the PSB;
- review or scrutinise the PSB's governance arrangements;
- make reports or recommendations to the PSB regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- consider matters relating to the PSB as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- carry out other functions in relation to the PSB that are imposed on it by the Act.

2.5 Scrutiny plays an important role in ensuring that partnership working is accountable to elected local councillors. The overarching objective of scrutiny to date has been to consider: What difference is Swansea Public Services Board making for citizens? Specific lines of questioning have focused on:

- The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Assessment
- The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Plan
- How well the PSB is meeting its well-being duties, and is considering the five ways of working and seven well-being goals
- The effectiveness of performance measurement arrangements
- The level of commitment from individual partners to the work of the PSB
- The effectiveness of the PSB in communicating its work, objectives and outcomes to its stakeholders
- The effectiveness of the PSB in addressing the issue of pooled funding to tackle priorities

2.6 It is important to note that the remit of PSB scrutiny includes only the activities of the PSB as a partnership and excludes scrutiny of individual partner organisations. The Committee can require any member of the PSB to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the PSB.

2.7 The Committee can routinely report its views and recommendations via Chair's letters to the Chair of Swansea Public Services Board. These letters, together with responses from the Chair of the PSB, will be reported back to the Committee. In addition, it is expected that these letters will be formally considered by Swansea Public Services Board at full meetings. A copy of most recent correspondence between the Performance Panel and Chair of the PSB, not already reported to the Committee, is **attached** for information. The last PSB scrutiny session took place in February 2020:

- Panel Meeting 3 Apr 2019 – Letter to/from Chair of PSB: discussion on Early Years Well-being Objective, PSB Governance and Q & A with Chair of PSB.
- Panel Meeting 4 Jul 2019 – Letter to Chair of PSB: discussion on new PSB Governance Structure and PSB Annual Report 2018/19.
- Panel Meeting 5 Feb 2020 – Letter to Chair of PSB: discussion on Early Years and Live Well, Age Well Well-being Objectives.

2.8 The Future Generations Commissioner, in their first Future Generations Report (published in May 2020) includes some findings about PSBs across Wales:

- PSBs are showing the power of collaboration, and many public bodies are going beyond their traditional functions to work with others. Collaboration now needs to move beyond involving the most obvious partners and from 'information sharing' towards pooling resources.
- I have seen promising improvements in the way PSBs are operating. Many have spent this first year focusing on building trust, relationships, and understanding each other's perspectives which is now beginning to bear fruit.
- The Act has provided public bodies and PSBs with a renewed focus on meaningful involvement. Some are finding new ways of involving people on an ongoing basis, but most are still only involving at a particular point in time.
- It is particularly encouraging to see how some PSBs are increasingly involving children and young people in their work, providing a voice to future generations.
- The Act is facilitating more integrated thinking, with many PSBs working together effectively to tackle issues and public bodies working beyond traditional organisational and geographical boundaries. But sometimes opportunities are being missed to achieve wider preventative benefits through integrating their objectives and collaborating with others.
- While PSBs are beginning to work together more effectively, their efforts to operate in a more transformational way are being hindered due to barriers such as funding, complex governance (especially relating to other boards) capacity and lack of support from Welsh Government.
- PSBs should consider whether they are operating in a transformational way (Believers and Achievers) or simply going through the motions and meeting process requirements.

The Future Generations Report 2020 is a statutory document that PSBs must take into account when setting or revising well-being plans.

The Future Generations Commissioner has also produced a 'Future Generations Framework for Scrutiny' which aims to support decision-making in the context of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It is intended to help scrutiny councillors to ask the right questions, across all areas of scrutiny, in relation to decision-making and policy / service proposals and provide challenge in relation to whether the five ways of working and seven well-being goals have been considered and are being met / supported.

3. Public Services Board Annual Report 2019/20

3.1 It has been 2 years since Swansea Public Services Board published its Local Well-being Plan in May 2018. This Annual Report highlights the progress made, how the sustainable development principle's ways of working have been applied, and how we might better work towards well-being in the future. The Annual Report is **appended** for discussion.

3.2 The following have been invited to attend the Committee to present to the Committee, discuss the work and achievements of the PSB and answer questions:

- Cllr. Rob Stewart – Leader of the Council / Joint Chair of the PSB
- Cllr. Andrea Lewis – Leader's Representative / Joint Chair of the PSB
- Roger Thomas (Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service) – Vice-Chair of the PSB
- Cllr. Clive Lloyd – former Chair of the PSB during 2019/20
- Adam Hill – Deputy Chief Executive, Swansea Council
- Leanne Ahearn – PSB Support Officer

4. Next Steps

4.1 Consideration of the PSB Annual Report provides a foundation from which to identify / discuss associated issues in relation to the effectiveness of the PSB. A further scrutiny session on the PSB could be arranged after six months that will enable the Committee to engage more widely with other PSB statutory members / key partners with regard to progress in the delivery of agreed Well-being Plan objectives.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications from this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Minutes of Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee – 15 October 2020

Appendix 2 - Letter correspondence between the PSB Scrutiny Performance Panel and Chair of the PSB

Appendix 3 – Covering Report and Swansea Public Services Board Annual Report 2019/20



Minutes of the **Swansea Public Services Board** **Joint Committee**

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, 15 October 2020 at 3.00 pm

Present:

Joanne Abbott-Davies, Swansea Bay University Health Board
Mark Brace, Police & Crime Commissioners Office
Amanda Carr, Swansea Council for Voluntary Service
Jan Curtice, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Martyn Evans, Natural Resources Wales
Adam Hill, Swansea Council
Andrea Lewis, Swansea Council
Joanna Maal, South Wales Police
Christopher Owen, Welsh Government
Roger Thomas, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Nuria Zolle, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Apologies for Absence

Sian Harrop-Griffiths, Swansea Bay University Health Board
Rob Stewart, Swansea Council

Also Present:

Leanne Ahern, Swansea Council
Sian Denty, Swansea Council
Helena Herklots, Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Steve King, Swansea Council
Allison Lowe, Swansea Council
Phil McDonald, Swansea Environmental Forum
David McKinney, Older People's Commission
Anthony Richards, Swansea Council

1 Election of Chair for the Municipal Year 2020-2021.

Resolved that Councillor Rob Stewart, Leader of Swansea Council and Councillor Andrea Lewis be appointed as Joint Chairs for the Municipal Year 2020-2021.

Councillor A S Lewis (Joint Chair) Presided

2 Election of Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2020-2021.

Resolved that Roger Thomas, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service be appointed Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2020-2021.

3 Welcome.

Councillor Andrea Lewis welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that she had taken over lead responsibility for the Public Services Board for Swansea Council.

4 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interest.

Phil McDonnell declared a personal interest in Minute 11 "Natural Resources Wales Funding Update".

5 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Public Services Board Joint Committee held on 13 August 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

6 Update on Actions from Previous Meeting.

In addition to the comments outlined in the action log, Adam Hill reported that there was currently no desire to extend the age range for the "Early Years" work stream to include children up to 7 years of age as it was felt the age was currently fit for purpose, however a report would be submitted should the age range be extended.

Agreed that the update on actions be noted.

7 Public Question Time.

There were no public questions.

8 Older People's Commissioner. (Verbal)

Helena Herklots, Older People's Commissioner for Wales and David McKinney, Ageing Well Lead joined the meeting in order to update the Committee on the recent "Leave No-one Behind report", and how it supported Swansea's commitment in becoming an Age Friendly City.

The Commissioner commenced by acknowledging the unusual times being encountered and thanked all the partners for the work undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic.

She explained that discussions had commenced approximately 6 months ago in relation to both Swansea and the other Local Authorities in Wales' development as Age Friendly Cities. She went on to say that whilst a network of age friendly communities existed across the world but there were currently no places in Wales that were currently members of that international community, therefore she would like to develop this piece of work as well as a Community of Practice in Wales which would link into the international network.

The Commissioner stated that it was a very difficult time for older people to stay well and connected in their local communities. She had undertaken numerous virtual network engagement sessions which were summarised in the "Leave no one Behind" report. She went on to say that human contact encountered in local communities had been very important to older people. However, we needed to ensure that our communities were age friendly and there were no barriers to older people taking part in daily activities. She outlined some practical issues raised which included:

- Adequate benches / seating available;
- Safe pavements;
- Street lighting;
- Ensuring our shops & businesses were aware of particular needs eg dementia, etc.

The Commissioner stated that some older people could unintentionally be excluded, and suggested that audits should be undertaken in our communities to ensure that we were age friendly and enable older people to participate and stay included.

She acknowledged that Swansea had made great progress towards an age friendly status by signing the Dublin status in 2014. In addition, our Ageing Well plan had also been very positive. Therefore, she felt that Swansea were well placed to be one of the leading communities in this field.

The Commissioner requested that Swansea agree to take part in the Community of Practice in Wales in order to share learning. She also offered support to submit an application to the World Health Organisation in order to be recognised as an Age Friendly City.

It was highlighted that this topic would fit in with a later agenda item in respect of a City for Wellbeing.

Councillor Lewis thanked the Older People's Commissioner for joining the meeting.

Agreed that the Swansea Public Services Board welcome the offer of support to submit a bid to the World Health Organisation to become an Age Friendly City and participate in the Community of Practice.

9 Community Impact Assessment.

Steve King, Information, Research & GIS Team Leader, Swansea Council presented a report to note the survey questions circulated following the PSB COVID-19 recovery planning workshop (August 2020), and circulate an initial draft 'PESTLE' analysis of the main community impacts of COVID-19.

He outlined the background including the work undertaken including the recovery workshop undertaken in order to share partner experiences of the pandemic and devise a response to recovery.

The Information, Research & GIS Team Leader recognised that whilst this was not a full community impact assessment compared to some others undertaken in Wales, it outlined what work had been undertaken in terms of extracting the key themes and relevant streams.

It was suggested that the workstreams consider the following 3 strategic objectives to focus on in order to develop a multi-agency added value action plan to build greater resilience over the next 12 months:

1. City for Wellbeing & Wildlife;
2. Green / Climate Change agenda;
3. County Lines, Substance Misuse, Anti-Social Behaviour

It was felt that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken by the Council in compiling a Climate Emergency action plan. Part of that process would be for all partners be asked to sign up to a climate change charter and construct their own action plans for their own organisations with collaboration across organisations eg co-procurement of green vehicles.

A climate emergency had been declared prior to covid, however it had brought things into sharp focus including the health inequalities. The economic response should not be to do more of the same and the Committee should utilise the learning already experienced.

There was a need to reflect but also prospectively look ahead and be realistic about timescales whilst supporting people to be resilient and manage expectations whilst acknowledging that the landscape had changed.

Flexibility would be required in how we react and respond whilst consideration to public tolerance, co-operation and perception was also key. However it was stressed that joint PSB's and other organisations were continuing to collaborate across other County Boroughs and nationally too, particularly in respect of County Lines.

Agreed that:

- 1) The report be noted;
- 2) The Board consider the draft PESTLE analysis of community impact and note any gaps or potential scope for improvement; in terms of issues, their key impacts, evidence sources and policy implications;
- 3) The Board use this analysis to help guide its work programme in the year ahead; and to assist in preparing for the next Assessment of Local Well-being (2022).

10 Local Well-being Assessment.

Steve King, Information, Research & GIS Team Leader, Swansea Council presented a report to set out issues and initial outline proposals for undertaking an Assessment of Local Well-being 2022.

Guidance from the Welsh Government was still awaited, however the report outlined and summarised the work undertaken for the previous well-being assessment and how it had been organised in terms of structure.

Consideration of the population assessment under the Social Services & Wellbeing Act would need to dovetail the requirements of the Local Wellbeing Assessment.

As Swansea Council no longer had the same number analysts available than when the last assessment had been undertaken in 2017 support in the form of analysts / researchers / specialists to feed into this would be required from the partners.

A lengthy discussion ensued with the following comments:

- Anticipate that very little would have changed since the last Wellbeing Assessment was undertaken, except the impact of Covid-19. Resources should be transposed into meaningful actions.
- A truly joined up, simplified approach to the population assessment and the Local Wellbeing assessment would be required as organisations would be asked to contribute to both.
- New factors for consideration would be: Covid, EU exit, climate change agenda, wider picture of economy, unemployment, SME's.
- Area statements (published in April) would statutorily need to be referred to.
- Refresh rather than re-start, utilising current benchmarking data.
- Involvement of the public and wider collaboration should be taken into account in the preparation of the Local Wellbeing Assessment and factored into the development of the Wellbeing Plan.
- Utilise existing partner consultation methods eg focus groups etc. All partners would need to lead in their respective organisations.
- Noted that the Green Infrastructure Strategy originated from the benefits of the PSB.
- Actions must be seen as mutually beneficial on a multi-agency basis and focus on something that the PSB would not have been doing outside of the PSB.

Agreed that:

- 1) The report be noted.
- 2) The Board consider how the Assessment might be undertaken in Swansea, in light of matters raised in this report and advice anticipated shortly from Welsh Government.

11 Natural Resources Wales Funding Update. (Verbal)

Adam Hill updated the Committee on the £25k made available by Natural Resources Wales in respect of climate & wider changes.

He reported that an application process was undertaken and reviewed by the 4 statutory partners. He was pleased to report that the full £25k had now been committed for the financial year up to March 2021 as follows:

- Fire breaks - £8k;
- Nature, recreation and action project - £7.5k;
- Swansea Environmental Forum - £8k;
- Working With Nature Task Group supporting Crymlyn Bog Eastside Project (to improve community engagement) - £1.5.

Agreed that the above allocations be approved by the Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee.

12 Poverty Truth Commission Update. (Verbal)

Anthony Richards, Poverty and Prevention Strategy Development Manager and Sian Denty Poverty & Prevention Strategy Development Officer joined the meeting to update the Committee on the current situation in relation to the Poverty Truth Commission.

The Poverty and Prevention Strategy Development Manager reminded them of the background and role of the Commission and informed them that the Facilitation Team had now been recruited but progress had been hampered due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

He encouraged the PSB members to attend the virtual event that they had been invited to on 23 October 2020. There would be an opportunity for organisations in Swansea to hear from Leeds Poverty Truth Commission regarding UK support and information on the role of being a Commissioner would also be available. Additional information, including handouts had previously been circulated to partners to forward to those interested in becoming a Civic and Business Commissioner. Potential candidates should contact the Facilitation Team.

In addition, as an element of funding was still required for the Poverty Truth Commission, the partners were asked to consider utilising funding from next year's Natural Resources Wales allowance or other source towards the Poverty Truth Commission.

Agreed that the update be noted.

13 UK Prevention Research Partnership - Call for Applications. (Verbal)

Adam Hill reminded partners that information had been circulated to them in relation to the UK Prevention Research Partnership. If anyone intended to submit an application please could inform Leanne Ahern, PSB Support Officer, however it

would be the responsibility of the respective organisation to complete and submit the application.

14 Public Accounts Committee.

Adam Hill reminded partners to send any responses in respect of the barriers to the successful Implementation of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to Leanne Ahern, PSB Support Officer as the consultation would close on 27 November 2020. A response would be sent collectively on behalf of Swansea Public Services Board.

15 Swansea Public Services Board - Workstreams.

Adam Hill reminded Workstream Leads to ensure that the 4 Workstream groups continue to meet on a regular basis.

The meeting ended at 4.32 pm

Chair

**To/**

**Professor Andrew Davies
Chair of Swansea Public Services
Board**

*Please ask for:
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Overview & Scrutiny

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24th April 2019**BY EMAIL**

Summary: This letter is from the Public Services Board Performance Panel. It follows the meeting on 3rd April 2019 looking at the Early Years Objective and Public Services Board Governance, we also had the Statutory Member Q&A.

Dear Professor Davies,

On 3rd April 2019 the Panel met with yourself, Gary Mahoney (Early Years Progression Officer), Allison Williams (Family Resource Manager), Paula Davies (Health Visiting Lead for Swansea), Alison Jones (Flying Start Link Teacher) and Claire Fauvel (Principal Public Health Practitioner).

We are grateful to all officers for taking time to attend this meeting considering their busy schedules and for giving us the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on the Panels thoughts.

Statutory Member Question and Answer Session

We are grateful to you for attending and answering questions.

We heard how the Well-being Plan, when it was developed reflected where the Public Services Board (PSB) was at the time and the process involved in developing it was largely dictated by legislation and timescales. We were told that if the PSB was being set up now, it would likely be done differently and more time would be allowed for relationships to be established.

We were told that PSBs have developed in complex ways with some organisations such as Natural Resources Wales sitting on multiple PSBs and contributing to every one of them. We feel that this is unreasonable and ineffective for those organisations who have to do this. When asked about the option to make PSBs regional you said that there were no imminent plans for this to happen.

You explained that the Governance Review you will propose should simplify the structure and aims to streamline the work which is currently being undertaken. We look forward to seeing how this is received by the other members.

We heard that time frames need to be reviewed to ensure that the work which is being undertaken is 'smart' and there is clarity in the framework which is currently in place. You also said the work streams are being reviewed and that leadership is being looked at to make sure it is effective. We were told that a new structure could improve long term strategic aims and contribute to changes but this is still at an early stage, we are interested to see how this develops over the next year.

When asked about scrutiny, you explained that effective governance requires effective scrutiny and that this leads to improved decision making and a raised profile of the issues being scrutinised. The Panel are glad that the role and importance of scrutiny is recognised.

We expressed a concern that accountability can be difficult as the scrutiny of an individual organisations performance is not the purpose of the scrutiny undertaken, but rather that organisations performance in relation to the PSB aims and objectives. You agreed and explained that making multi-agency decisions is difficult due to the sometimes contrasting aims of the PSB and the organisation. We agree that this is an ongoing issue.

In previous meetings we have stated that the PSB can take up a lot of officer time without having the associated financial support for the work. You accepted that although the financial input from organisations is minimal, the impact on officer time to deliver and organise the work (especially in relation to report development) can be quite high. The issue of pooled budgets was raised again which the Panel support, but you explained that although this could be an option it needs to come after relationships and processes are developed and that these processes need to be developed in the best interests of the Service Users.

Early Years Objective

We had a very thorough presentation from some of the workers delivering under the Early Years Objective. The amount of work which is being undertaken within Early Years is very impressive. We heard how the work aims to cover pregnancy to a child's second birthday in the first instance but there is recognition that work like this is essential during a child's younger years in general. We know that investment in Early Years is most effective, both for the wellbeing of the child and in relation to financial investment and we feel this is the kind of preventative work which should be being undertaken.

We heard how the work which is being delivered is very collaborative and includes senior figures and commitments from Police, Health, Council and a range of other organisations. We were told that the 'Healthy Hearts. Happy Faces' was an excellent example of truly collaborative work which could not have been achieved by one organisation on its own. As a result of social media use, which is easily accessible to

many people, there is huge attendance at events like the Teddy Bears Picnic and National Play Day, this is very positive.

We were told how there is more focus now on physical literacy encouraging confidence, competence and motivation in relation to movement for children. We heard how children need to be taught and nurtured to use and maintain these skills and we are happy to hear that the children are enjoying it and the feedback was that they wanted more.

We heard about Flying Start work including aims and objectives of the project. Although Flying Start was established outside of the PSB you explained how the work which is being done links in to the 7 well-being goals and 5 ways of working. We were told how Flying Start is improving children's performance by measuring the distance travelled from when a child starts to when the child moves on to school. We heard how the transition to Flying Start is undertaken in a thoughtful way allowing for a 'soft' start including visits to the setting and open days to meet staff and become familiar with activities. The routine and relationship which is developed mirrors school and helps both children and parents adjust into routines and processes similar to school to assist with a successful nursery commencement. We feel this is really important.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have been discussed at this Panel previously. We heard how many of the beneficiaries who link in with projects under Early Years have experienced at least one, and often multiple ACEs, showing that the projects are targeting the correct people. We heard how people who have experienced ACEs are more likely to perpetuate them as an adult so breaking that cycle is essential for well-being. We were interested to hear that Health Visitors are integral in this work and there is new work being undertaken in relation to peri-natal mental health.

We heard how Health and Social Care needs more prevention work and that early intervention and prevention has proven outcomes not only in financial terms, but is the most effective way of dealing with issues. This also requires an investment in the workforce and a consideration of the physical location of services, which are more successful when a 'hub' or shared location is in place.

We expressed in the meeting that the presentation was thorough and the work it discussed was very impressive, however, we would like to understand how much of this is a direct result of the PSB. We know that Flying Start and the 30 Hour Free Childcare Scheme are not a result of the PSB and pre-date the work of the PSB. Can you explain how this links to the work of the PSB and therefore be claimed as a success under the PSB objectives?

Governance

You told us that there would be a new structure presented at the Core Group and we would have feedback around how this is progressing. We do have a query around other PSBs and their governance structures. You alluded that other PSBs have 'work plans' which they report on. We will explore Swansea's version and provide feedback.

Other Business

The voluntary sector was not really mentioned during the presentation, despite the substantial amount of experience and work, which they contribute to Swansea in respect of Early Years.

The Panel do have some additional observations, which they would like some clarification on;

- The voluntary sector contributes greatly to Early Years work; can you confirm which voluntary agencies are represented on the Early Years Strategy Group?
- Regarding the First 1000 Days Conference in November 2017, were any voluntary sector agencies involved? If this was the beginning of the strategy, it is important to ensure that all stakeholders contribute. If the voluntary sector were not involved, how can they be in the future?
- Can you confirm how the voluntary sector have been involved with the GP Early Years Workers?

We would welcome your thoughts on any part of this letter but in particular would like responses to the following by 22nd May if possible;

1. We know that Flying Start and the 30 Hour Free Childcare Scheme are not a result of the PSB and pre-date the work of the PSB. Can you explain how this links to the work of the PSB and therefore be claimed as a success under the PSB objectives?
2. The voluntary sector contributes greatly to Early Years work; can you confirm which voluntary agencies are represented on the Early Years Strategy Group?
3. Regarding the First 1000 Days Conference in November 2017, were any voluntary sector agencies involved? If this was the beginning of the strategy, it is important to ensure that all stakeholders contribute. If the voluntary sector were not involved, how can they be in the future?
4. Can you confirm how the voluntary sector have been involved with the GP Early Years Workers?

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Mary Jones

Convener, Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel

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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

☎ 01639 683379

Our Ref/Ein Cyf: AD/JAD/tr

Date: 24th May 2019

Councillor Mary Jones
Convener
Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel

cllr.mary.jones@swansea.gov.uk

Dear Mary,

Public Services Board Performance Panel

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Scrutiny Panel on 3rd April 2019, and I apologise that my response has missed your deadline. I have always placed great store on the importance and value of scrutiny and welcome appearing before your panel. Thank you also for your letter of the 24th April 2019 regarding the Early Years Objective and Governance of the Public Services Board.

Regarding the discussion about making Public Services Boards (PSBs) regional I can confirm that there are no imminent plans for this to happen. By way of explanation this is because according to the Welsh Government statute, mergers of PSBs can happen, but they cannot then be disaggregated again. As a result it has been agreed that rather than merge PSBs, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot PSBs will work together on a number of objectives to improve effectiveness and reduce duplication. In both the Early Years and Working with Nature wellbeing work streams joint work is being developed between the two PSBs and where appropriate reporting into the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board, (what was previously the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board.)

With regards to the governance review of Swansea PSB, as I reported to the Scrutiny Panel, this has been focusing on reviewing the PSB governance arrangements with a view to simplifying and streamlining these, making them more effective and allowing them to focus on delivering the Well-being Objectives laid down in the PSB's Well-being Plan. I set up the Governance Review in the autumn of 2018 with the report received and agreed by the PSB Core Group on 11th April 2019. As part of this the objectives have been reviewed



and the aims for these re-evaluated to ensure that they are SMART as well as the leads revised as appropriate. As part of this, individual organisations are also clarifying and aligning their governance arrangements to fit with the findings of the review. For example, Swansea Bay University Health Board is restructuring its governance to have more effective scrutiny of the various partnerships it participates in.

In respect of the specific questions you raised:

1. We know that Flying Start and the 30 Hour Free Childcare Scheme are not a result of the PSB and pre-date the work of the PSB. Can you explain how this links to the work of the PSB and therefore be claimed as a success under the PSB objectives?

Whilst these initiatives were established prior to the PSB's work, the focus of the Early Years work stream and the wide range of partners involved has ensured that the benefits of these schemes can be more broadly approached and linked to other related work which would otherwise not have been connected. Specifically the Early Years work in Swansea has invested in up-skilling the Early Years workforce, replicating the Flying Start approach on a proportionate basis according to the need beyond the defined geographical areas for this initiative. It will also enable us to identify gaps in provision and opportunities to access additional investment in order to enhance services to achieve readiness for birth, nursery and school.

2. The voluntary sector contributes greatly to Early Years work; can you confirm which voluntary agencies are represented on the Early Years Strategy Group?

I accept that this has been a gap in the partnership previously and one that has been identified as a priority in the joint work currently being undertaken by Swansea and Neath Port Talbot PSBs' Early Years work. When the Swansea Early Years Strategy Group was established, representation was sought from stakeholders at a strategic level and therefore the Director of Swansea Council for Voluntary Services was invited to join the group, and she acted as a conduit to the wider sector. Several subgroups exist under the Strategy Group and at these a number of voluntary organisations have participated, including Mudiad Meithrin, Early Years Wales, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs, Pacey Cymru, Action for Children and Menter Iaith Abertawe. However, as I pointed out, this is an area where we recognise that the Third Sector should and must be actively involved, as their contribution is essential.

3. Regarding the First 1000 Days Conference in November 2017, were any voluntary sector agencies involved?

I have have been informed that this very successful conference had attendance from a broad spectrum of stakeholders including the following voluntary sector organisations: SCVS, Barnardos, Action for Children, Swansea Environmental forum, Faith in Families.



4. Can you confirm how the voluntary sector have been involved with the GP Early Years Workers?

I hope the presentation to the Scrutiny Panel demonstrated the valuable contribution of this work. This role often acts as a catalyst for social prescribing and signposting and so has relied on the voluntary sector support which is available to meet the needs of individuals identified and supported by this service. An example would be the links with SNAP and other additional / specialist needs services to support children with additional / complex needs, recognising the value of their knowledge, skills and expertise in supporting these children and families.

I hope that my response helps the panel with its work and if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**ANDREW DAVIES
CHAIRMAN**





To/

**Councillor Clive Lloyd
Chair of Swansea Public Services
Board**

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Overview & Scrutiny

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16th July 2019

BY EMAIL

Summary: This letter is from the Public Services Board Performance Panel. It follows the meeting on 4th July 2019 which looked at the new Governance Structure and the PSB Annual Report 2018/19.

Dear Councillor Lloyd,

On 4th July 2019 the Panel met with yourself, Suzy Richards (Sustainable Policy Officer) and Leanne Ahern (PSB Support Officer) to discuss the Governance Structure and the Annual Report 2018/19.

We want to thank all the Officers for attending and answering questions. We do have some observations which we would like to share with you.

Review of New Governance Structure

You told us how Professor Andrew Davies has stepped down as Chair due to retirement and that Swansea Council will now take over the Chair of the PSB with Mid and West Wales Fire Service as Vice-Chair.

We heard how the Governance Review has now concluded and the structure will be more focused going forward with a smaller number of people attending the partnership meeting. You said this meant an emphasis on the Working Groups ensuring they deliver on their specific outcomes which is more effective going forward.

You said the new structure is driven by action from each of the objective areas with clear leads and accountability, as the statutory members are responsible for the outcomes in their allocated area of work. We were told that these action plans are

based on the Well-being Plan 'steps' and that they will be coming to scrutiny for perusal over the coming year.

We asked about what would happen if there was a dispute within the PSB and we were told that the Chair would appoint an independent mediator if required, we hope that if this happens all people involved work together to resolve any issues.

We noticed that within the 'Partners' sections, Elected Members are not mentioned. We feel that we have substantial knowledge of our local areas and the people we represent. We would like to see Elected Members involved and recognised more within the work of the PSB. We heard how legislation seeks to involve Community Councils and you liaise with 'One Voice Wales' to do this. We hope that this involvement continues.

You discussed how there were opportunities to broaden engagement with all communities and specifically with voluntary groups. The Panel agree with this as there are a multitude of volunteers in our communities who could contribute a wealth of information and experience. We asked how the public were made aware of the work which is being done by the PSB. You told us that a communication process is in place to advertise meetings and each partner should distribute information via their own communication and strategy channels.

We heard how much of the work under the PSB is based on goodwill and adding value to existing work but the principles under the Well-being of Future Generations Act should be completely integrated and underpin everything we do. Although the purpose seems to relate to service delivery it also involves 'how' work is delivered and the long term progress. We hope to hear more about this in future meetings.

We mentioned that the Terms of Reference for the PSB could be improved by explicitly detailing the five ways of working including collaboration as this would create a positive emphasis on what should be happening.

You told us that the new Governance Structure will be a positive change in the work of the PSB and help achieve outcomes. We hope going forward that more information relating to progress is brought back to the Panel and we will be requesting to see the individual Action Plans and their representatives in upcoming meetings.

Public Services Board Annual Report 2018/19

We heard how the Annual Report highlights the work which has been done to date and the work which aims to be done in the future. You explained how the new governance structure should be a catalyst for delivering under the working groups and would focus on the leads who will provide cross cutting actions and information.

We heard about a range of indicators including child obesity, homelessness and air quality and how these were used to inform an initial view of well-being in Swansea. You told us how feedback was analysed to see where it overlapped to demonstrate well-being and outcomes and that the research team will develop more in depth outcomes based on the indicators. We look forward to seeing these once they are

developed.

You discussed some of the successes under the Well-being Objectives and we are pleased that there is activity and progress under each one. We will look to see how this activity translates into measurable outcomes over the coming year. It was interesting to hear that Swansea is working toward being the first City in Wales to sign a declaration for Human Rights and Swansea Bay University Health Board is involved in the Biophilic Wales Project. We were told how this project has a focus to improve areas around health board buildings, linking in with the health benefits of green areas and nature. We look forward to an update on this in future meetings as an innovative and exciting piece of work.

With every statutory member now involved to deliver outcomes under the new structure we anticipate that the objectives and action under them will be strengthened going forward.

We will be inviting each of the statutory members to future meetings to present their action plans and discuss what will be achieved by them.

There is no requirement for you to respond to this letter but your thoughts and feedback are most welcome.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Mary Jones

Convener, Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel

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**To/
Councillor Clive Lloyd
Chair of Public Services Board**

BY EMAIL

cc Roger Thomas, Vice-Chair of Public
Services Board
Swansea Council Cabinet Members

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Scrutiny

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PSB/2019-20/2

20 March 2020

Summary: This is a letter from the Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Chair of the Public Services Board following the meeting of the Panel on 5 February 2020. It is regarding the PSB well-being objectives on Early Years and Live Well, Age Well.

Dear Councillor Lloyd,

Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel – 5 February

Thank you for attending the Scrutiny Performance Panel meeting on 5 February 2020 in which we discussed progress on two of the PSB's four well-being objectives: Early Years (lead partner: Swansea Bay University Health Board) and Live Well, Age Well (lead partner: Swansea Council).

We appreciated the attendance of a number of representatives from the Health Board and Public Health Wales in support of the work on Early Years, and Councillors and Council officers attending in support of the work on Live Well, Age Well. We thank all for answering questions about the impact and difference made.

We are writing to you, as Chair of the Public Services Board, in order to share with you our views (and any concerns / recommendations) about progress with the delivery of actions in respect of each objective, and outcomes.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU
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To receive this information in alternative format, or in Welsh please contact the above

Early Years – Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life

The Panel heard from a range of people including Dr. Keith Reid, Executive Director of Public Health at Swansea Bay University Health Board, who is the new strategic lead for this well-being objective. We also had contributions from Siân Harrop-Griffiths (Executive Director of Strategy, Swansea Bay University Health Board), Nina Williams (Public Health Wales NHS Trust), Claire Fauvel (Public Health Wales NHS Trust) and Gary Mahoney (Early Years Progression Officer, Swansea Council).

The Panel appreciated their written report, which gave an overview of activities and progress against a number of key 'steps' to deliver improvement:

- To promote Swansea's First 1,000 Day Programme.
- To make sure parents are supported for birth and early childhood.
- To work towards effectively integrating local early years services.
- To make sure the right interventions are made earlier in life.

It was acknowledged that because of the leadership changes operational officers maintained activity under the 2018/19 action plan but have undertaken a review with a view to refreshing the work plan for 2020/21.

We also noted that Swansea PSB is now collaborating with Neath Port Talbot PSB as part of the Welsh Government sponsored Early Years Pathfinder Programme that seeks to create a streamlined, seamless and agile local early years system across the region.

We appreciated sight of detailed action plan against each of the 'steps' and progress to date, which also highlighted actions that will continue into 2020/21.

Things that were highlighted to the Panel:

- Significant progress has been made on all 'steps'.
- An evaluation of a Primary Care Early Years pilot in Penderi Cluster, focussing on reducing the gap in readiness for school, has demonstrated a more cost effective approach, compared to usual primary care patient pathways, and improved outcomes. A funding proposal to scale up the Primary Care Child and Family Service across all GP cluster areas in Neath Port Talbot and Swansea has been endorsed by the Children and Young People's Transformation Board (a sub-group of the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board (RPB)). A decision is anticipated to request release of funding from the Welsh Government to support the continuation and roll out of the programme.
- An evaluation of the Jig-So Project Journey has demonstrated significant cost avoidance and improved outcomes for children and vulnerable families.

- Work is being done to scope and map the early years system so that there is a better understanding of what services are out there and improve co-ordination and integration – so that there is a whole system / holistic approach across all organisations and service providers, not silo working, rather than a patchwork of services that families have to negotiate,. This has been shown to work in other areas, e.g. Leeds and Brighton, with impact on the readiness for school.
- Examples of the work involved and impact made by the Flying Start Programme, Jig-So Project, and Primary Years Pilot, around improving health, habits, relationships, and development of skills and resilience.
- Work done to improve awareness and understanding of the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (a risk factor that may cause problems into adulthood) with professionals that work routinely with children and families, that enables front line staff to explore behaviours, tailor support for individuals and evaluate the appropriateness of services that are being delivered to vulnerable families.
- Planned improvements in perinatal mental health care, including Swansea Bay UHB hosting the in-patient service for the population of South, Mid and West Wales.
- The Public Services Board provides a good place for public service leaders to challenge each other, share information, and work together to contribute to and achieve the desired improvements. There is ongoing debate around finances, and whether pooled budgets would be a more effective way forward, in tackling shared well-being objectives.

Main points arising from our discussion:

- The clear leadership on this objective and work streams by the Health Board and Public Health Wales was evident and welcomed.
- The work of officers on the ground, working on a day-to-day basis in efforts to give every child the best start in life, is to be congratulated.
- The Panel recognised the focus on and benefits to a small number of children and families or specific areas in Swansea, but hoped to see a rollout / scaling up of approaches across Swansea given demonstrated cost savings and benefits – subject to funding. Given the scale of the problem the gap in resources to make a bigger difference is concerning. Limited resources of course have to be directed at the greatest need, and spent in the right way.
- Some issues around Flying Start coverage given it is postcode based, rather than catchment area, meaning some children in the same school not benefitting from the Programme. Similarly, this means that it is not necessarily needs led. We noted that professionals have already made the case to the Welsh Government for system change.
- The importance of early intervention to help children and families with needs, and the vital role of midwifery as first contact to identify support and referral to appropriate services.

- Demonstrating the return on investment and achievements from early intervention projects and initiatives can be challenging in the short term – but changes and the difference made over the long-term need to be clearer, to know whether we have really moved forward e.g. over the last 20 years, to break the intergenerational cycle of disadvantage.

Live Well, Age Well – To Make Swansea a Great Place to Live and Age Well

The Panel heard from you, Councillor Mark Child, Cabinet Member for Care, Health & Ageing Well, and Adam Hill, Strategic Lead Officer, and operational lead officers, Jane Whitmore and Julie Gosney. The report provided to the Panel enabled us to understand progress to date with the Live Well, Age Well objective, as well as the developing future priorities.

We noted the following ‘steps’ key to this objective, and progress on these:

- Cultural change – starting a debate across generations about what it means to live and age well and develop a campaign based on the feedback.
- Innovative approaches to health and social care – supporting dementia friendly communities.
- Community based approaches – maximizing existing approaches and exploring evidence-based approaches to end of life care.
- Innovative housing and technology – exploring a range of initiatives to tackle social isolation and build personal resilience across the PSB and the voluntary sector.
- Making every contact count – developing and sharing of joint messages and resources that support people to remain safe and independent in their homes.

We heard that:

- During 2019/20 the focus has been to revisit existing steps in the Well-being Plan to establish what is business as usual and what actions would benefit from a collaborative partnership approach that will make a difference.
- There has been a lot of work on citizen engagement and participation through mechanisms such as the Big Conversation, Live Well, Age Well Forum (updated version of the 50+ Forum), and other intergenerational opportunities. Understanding what matters to people across age ranges and what it means to live and age well, to guide actions.
- Digital Friendly Generations is an ongoing digital storytelling project that has been successful in bringing together the young and older people of Swansea, to create an understanding of dementia and explore issues, and help people with dementia to improve their sense of well-being, and have a stronger sense of control and a voice in sharing their life experiences with the younger generation.

- The Local Area Co-ordinators approach continues to work in our communities to help anyone build relationships within their community and access support. Local Area Coordination will be expanding in 2020 with five new officers joining the team, making 16 in total.
- Moving forward three key thematic priorities (encompassing all elements of the above 'steps'), with SMART targets, have been identified to deliver on the well-being objective and ensure partnership buy in, with actions planned for the coming year. The three priorities, would each have a specific working group with a nominated lead and action plan with expected outcomes and timelines:
 - A City for All – mapping existing commitments and initiatives, e.g. City of Sanctuary, Human Rights; and identifying opportunities, overlaps and commonalities.
 - Active Travel – improving ability of people to routinely walk or cycle, identifying barriers to overcome to help achieve this, be more active and live well (noted this is not the same thing as accessible travel / transport)
 - Healthy Literacy / Healthy Ageing – encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles, which can reduce a person's risk of getting early onset dementia.

Main points arising from our discussion:

- Not every area across Swansea has the service of a specialist Local Area Coordinator, and the Panel supports expansion of this approach. Additionally, there may be an opportunity for community councils, if present, to step into the void. Perhaps the Public Services Board could improve its links with Community Councillors to assist with and support ageing well initiatives in the community, and develop community contact.
- The role of other community-based groups, including churches, was also recognised as playing a very important part in efforts and the wider network to engage with people. We noted that there is a lot of work going on in the Third Sector, with SCVS as the umbrella body, which are saving costs for statutory partners.
- There is concern about the impact of air pollution on our ability to live well and age well. Recent findings published by the Centre for Cities called 'Holding our Breath' make bad reading for Swansea. According to their research, on a per-capita basis, of the UK's 63 largest towns and cities Swansea has the highest particulate emissions per 10,000 inhabitants, and for NO₂, Swansea is second worst in terms of having the highest emissions per 10,000 inhabitants.
<https://www.centreforcities.org/reader/cities-outlook-2020/air-quality-cities/>.
 This should be a priority for the Public Services Board to address.

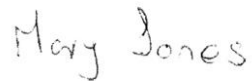
Your Response

We hope that you find the contents of this letter useful and would welcome any comments, however we do not expect you to provide a formal response.

We look forward to a further review of progress against these objectives in due course.

Please note that our next Panel meeting will focus on the Stronger Communities and Working with Nature PSB Objectives, hearing from the lead PSB partners, however would welcome your input if you are able to attend.

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR MARY JONES

Convener, Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel

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Report of the Joint Chair of Swansea Public Services Board

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Review of Swansea PSB Annual Report 19/20

Purpose:	To provide the recently published PSB Annual Report as an overview of work and achievements of the PSB during 2019/20.
Content:	PSB Annual Report 2019/20
Councillors are being asked to:	Consider the information provided and give views
Lead Councillor:	Cllr Andrea Lewis
Lead Officer & Report Author:	Adam Hill

1. Background

1.1 The Swansea Public Services Board (PSB) Annual Report 2019/20 was published on 15th September 2020. This Report highlights progress made during 2019/20 meeting the Well-being Objectives set out in the PSB Well-being Plan published in May 2018, where the key focus was on planning and prioritising areas where collectively partners could make the biggest difference.

2. Governance Review

2.1 The limitations of the previous PSB governance structure were recognised and a Governance Review was undertaken to address this. The Review also took on board advice from the Future Generations Commissioner and a new Governance structure was put in place.

2.2 The Statutory PSB members along with the wider Core Group intended to create a streamlined governance process with a new focus on delivery objectives as the driver of the PSB.

2.3 Decision making governance is expedited at a strategic level via a Joint Committee consisting of the PSB Statutory members and invited participants. This group provides advocacy and support at a strategic level for issues raised by PSB partners.

- 2.4 Objective delivery groups lead on delivery, each co-ordinated and facilitated by a statutory member. Involvement is intended to be more meaningful and involve a wider range of partners through the creation of a Partnership Forum. Task and finish groups are able to be formed in response to need and draw on the skills and expertise of the Partnership Forum organisations. The PSB Joint Committee meetings are held bi-monthly and the Partnership Forums take place every 6 months.
- 2.5 The new governance structure proved more effective during 2019/20 than the previous arrangements; although the PSB has faced significant disruption since March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Summary of Progress Towards Well-being Objectives

3.1 The Annual Report attached at Appendix A details the progress that the PSB has made to each of its Well-being Objectives. These achievements are summarised in the following paragraphs:

3.2 *Early Years - To ensure that children have the best start in life to be the best that they can be*

3.2.1 This work is co-ordinated by the Early Years Steering Group and led by Swansea University Health Board. Since April 2019 there have been staffing changes within the Early Years workstream, which led to the role of the Objective Lead and the role of the Chair becoming vacant. As an interim measure, operational officers of the sub-group maintained the activity agreed under the 18/19 action plan. The officers also undertook a review of activity to date in order to enable a take-stock appraisal with a view of refreshing the work plan for 20/21. This issue has now been resolved recently with the newly appointed Director of Public Health taking up the role of both Chair and Objective Lead for Early Years.

3.2.2 Achievements include:

- Improved integrated working between generic midwives and Jig-so midwives, which aims to offer support to young or vulnerable parents.
- Demonstrable better health and social outcomes for the young parents and a large proportion who were referred to the Jig-so project.
- A reduction in children and families requiring social services support.
- Parents that had access early intervention support feeling more confident and supported.
- A reduction in GP demand and appointment time.
- Cost savings upstream in health and social services costs.
- Training to support Swansea's Early Years Childcare settings to have a better understanding and provide due regard to the ALN Code.

3.3 *Live well, age well - To make Swansea a great place to live well and age well.*

3.3.1 This work is co-ordinated by the Live Well, Age Well working group and led by Swansea Council. Work has been aimed at starting a debate across generations about what it means to live and age well and develop a campaign

based on the feedback. To drive forward this step, citizen engagement and participation has been a key feature through mechanisms such as the Big Conversation, Live Well, Age Well Forum and other Intergenerational Opportunities.

3.3.2 1,521 people had opportunities to have their voices heard through Big Conversation events. Among the outcomes were opportunities for elected Members to have discussions with children and young people focusing on their experiences of inequality; these views helped inform Swansea's Equalities Scrutiny Report. Young people had a say on the new site for Alternative Education Provision in Swansea; their ideas helped inform the design process of the buildings.

3.3.3 The Live Well, Age Well Forums for citizens aged 50+ tackled themes including Digital Inclusion, Communication and Information, Health and Well-being, Transport & Getting about & Staying Safe. Representatives were also invited to attend the Intergenerational Big Conversations, allowing younger and older people to discuss things together.

3.3.4 Other innovative approaches to health and social care included supporting dementia friendly communities. This included Dementia Friendly Generations, a digital storytelling project to bring together the young and older people of Swansea and create a better understanding of Dementia. Other initiatives included exploring a range of initiatives to tackle social isolation and build personal resilience across the PSB and voluntary sector through, for example, the work of Local Area Co-ordinators.

3.4 *Working with Nature - To improve health, enhance biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint*

3.4.1 This work is coordinated by the Working with Nature Task Group and led by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Swansea Environmental Forum (SEF). This objective highlights the importance of the natural environment to health and well-being and sets out proposals for increasing green infrastructure and biodiversity, reducing our carbon footprint and improving our understanding of natural resources and sustainability.

3.4.2 Green Infrastructure (GI) describes all the features of the natural environment between and within our towns and cities. Success include developers already engaging in the pre-publication GI Strategy – to factor into future plans and using the 'Green Space Factor' Tool to help them do this. Work has been undertaken with Pobl and Coastal social housing groups. Coastal are developing a green roof at their city centre Head Office and Pobl have GI as a key theme in their regeneration master planning for their housing stock.

3.4.3 There has been a surge in tree planting schemes across Swansea organised by various organisations and communities. The Working with Nature Task Group is keen to ensure that appropriate trees are planted in appropriate locations; Almost 150 trees have been planted alongside streets in Swansea's Penlan area and 250 will follow next year. Steps have been taken to tackle Ash trees affected by Ash Dieback disease; around 3,000 Ash trees have so far

been surveyed on public land many of which show varying signs of Ash Dieback.

3.4.4 High-quality parks and green spaces are important to our communities, our health and wellbeing, nature and the economy. The PSB wants to encourage everyone to explore their local areas and make the most of what we have on our doorstep. One key achievement was the establishment of a community growing project in Clydach, which has become an award-winning community hub providing social and mental health benefits to vulnerable people and supplying provisions to the local food bank.

3.4.5 The PSB Working with Nature Task Group have also been liaising with PSB working groups in west Wales about the work they are doing related to climate risk management and adaptation. Swansea Environmental Forum and The Environment Centre collaborated to organise a programme of events with funding from Natural Resources Wales and support from many PSB Task Group partners. These included a series of well attended evening public talks and discussions on several issues linked to the PSB Working with Nature agenda. The largest event was a day-long conference in May 2019 involving over 60 representatives from a wide range of partner organisations and individuals. The *SMART NATURE: Working with Nature in Swansea* conference focused on themes from the PSB Working with Nature Action Plan and included keynote presentations from Zero Carbon Britain initiative and the Green Infrastructure Consultancy team.

3.5 *Strong Communities - To build strong communities with a sense of pride and belonging*

3.5.1 This work is coordinated by the Strong Communities Steering Group and is led by Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service. It seeks to pull together and coordinate through the PSB work underway to build resilient people and communities.

3.5.2 Local Area Coordinators (LACs) have a wide-ranging preventative brief that includes looking out for people who might be lonely and isolated and help them to connect with others so that they can live stronger, healthier and more independent and active lives; there are now more LACs working in communities.

3.5.3 The PSB is encouraging businesses and agencies to pay the living wage via the Living Wage Pledge and exploring ways to include living wage requirements in procurement and grant giving – encouraging all PSB partners to build this into their own terms and conditions when distributing funding to others.

3.5.4 People living in the Mount Pleasant decided that it would be nice to have somewhere to meet neighbours, make new friends and become involved in different activities. Now a group of volunteers has a base that has been named the Hub on the Hill and it is becoming a focal point of activity for the local community. Coastal Housing Association provides the accommodation, covering rent and utilities cost and Swansea Council's Local Area Coordinator

helps to introduce people but it is the residents that have driven the project forward and turned the hub into a vibrant and welcoming place.

3.5.5 Blaenymaes Men's Shed offers a meeting place for friendship to reduce loneliness and isolation among men from all backgrounds in the Penderry area. It plans group activities and projects to keep its members active and to benefit the wider community. It is a safe environment for those looking for a bit of company and/ or to learn new skills.

3.5.6 The Safer Swansea Partnership tasked a Critical Incident Task & Finish Group to produce an action plan to deal with issues relating to sex work, substance misuse, criminal activity and Anti- Social Behaviour and how to improve the living and working environment around Swansea High Street; there is a clear Governance of the Critical Incident Group to the Safer Swansea Partnership and then to PSB.

4. Barriers and Challenges

4.1 The Annual Report describes other successes in more detail, including what has been achieved through sustainable ways of working. There are inevitably however challenges and barriers that have to be overcome, not least during the pandemic crisis and the continued need during these times to reinforce multi-agency engagement and commitment to collaborative working to address existing, new and emerging challenges and priorities.

4.2 Among others, such challenges include:

- Financial uncertainty and maintaining sufficient funding and resources.
- Making sure that existing and new work is sufficiently joined-up and coordinated.
- Ensuring that the right organisations and people are involved and sitting around the table.
- Staffing availability and capacity to deliver.
- Making sure that communication between different groups is efficient and effective.
- Avoiding duplication between different partnerships and groups.

5. Legal implications

5.1 There are no Legal Implications

6. Finance Implications

6.1 There are no Finance Implications

7. Equality & Engagement Implications

7.1 There are no Equality & Engagement Implications

Background papers: None

Appendices: Appendix A – Swansea Public Services Board Annual Report 19/20.

Swansea Public Services Board Annual Report 2019/20



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Gwasanaeth Tân Ac Achub
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru
Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Service

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Message from Swansea PSB

It has been 2 years since Swansea Public Services Board published our first Local Well-being Plan in May 2018.

This Report aims to highlight not only the progress made towards the 'Swansea we Want' but also to reflect on how we have applied the sustainable development principle's ways of working and how we might better work towards well-being in the future.

Our first year of operation focused on research to understand Swansea's challenges and opportunities, while the second year concentrated on planning and prioritising areas where collectively we could make the biggest difference. This Report focuses on 2019/20 - our second year of progress and delivery.

In addition to the meaningful outcomes that have helped change lives in Swansea, we have also created and continue to develop a delivery infrastructure and governance system.

While we have achieved a great deal in our 2 years of delivery, Swansea PSB is not complacent and will continue to innovate and seek new ways to improve Swansea's well-being both today and for future generations.



Cllr Clive Lloyd
PSB Chair



Roger Thomas
Vice-Chair

Our Vision and Local Well-being Objectives

Swansea PSB - The story so far

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 created Public Services Boards so that local organisations could work together to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of Wales's Well-being goals.

In 2016, the Public Services Board (PSB) started a conversation about well-being in Swansea. We carried out an Assessment of Local Well-being to understand what matters most to communities. The Assessment told us that for many reasons Swansea is a great place to live but that we need to work harder together to make sure everyone can live well, benefit from and be proud of Swansea.

Using information from the Assessment and by listening to people, in 2018, Swansea Public Services Board developed a Local Well-being Plan. This identified our four Well-Being Objectives and a cross-cutting action.

Last year, we completed our 1st PSB Annual Report which highlighted the areas of work that had happened since the implementation of the Well-being plan and how we are working together to make this happen.

This report aims to provide an update on the progress we have made towards meeting our objectives in 19/20, the lessons learnt and our future ambitions.

Our Vision

In Swansea, we believe in the rights of every person. Our vision is to work together to make Swansea a place which is prosperous, where our natural environment is appreciated and maintained and where every person can have the best start in life, get a good job, live well, age well and have every opportunity to be healthy, happy, safe and the best they can be.

To achieve our vision we have prioritised four Local Well-being Objectives. We hope that by focusing our collective efforts, we can make the biggest difference by working together.

Our Local Well-being objectives for 2040

Our four key long term areas of work are prioritised below



Early Years – To ensure that children have the best start in life to be the best that they can be.

Live Well, Age Well – To make Swansea a great place to live well and age well.

Working with Nature - To improve health, enhance biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint.

Strong Communities – To build strong communities with a sense of pride and belonging

In addition, our cross cutting action for change underpins each of the local well-being objectives.

Sharing for Swansea – To work towards integrated public services in Swansea by sharing resources assets and expertise, in order to develop a common language and make every contact count.

This is being developed through the Objective Leads working together to identify where resources, assets and expertise can be shared as part of the development of the Objectives. For example, a Critical Incident Group (CIG) for the High street was formed, agencies took the lead in their specific knowledge areas and the partnership has extended beyond the statutory partners to support and assist in terms of assets, resources and expertise. In relation to the CIG- the police lead on communications as

well as anti-social behaviour and criminality. Barod and Womens Aid take a multi-agency approach to tackling Violence and substance misuse.

Public service hubs are being developed to co-locate and co-produce to ensure public services are accessible in one place as well as developing a common language and ensuring that every contact counts and deal with multiple queries in one place at first point of contact.

The Way We Work - Governance

The Sustainable Development Principle

Swansea PSB is committed to acting in a manner which seeks to ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

We do this by ensuring every decision we make or action we take considers the sustainable development principle's five ways of working.



Long term: The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.



Prevention: How to act to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.



Integration: Considering how public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.



Collaboration: Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of that body itself) that could help the body meet its well-being objectives.



Involvement: The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body services.

The National Well-being Goals

We aim to make our actions deliver as much value as possible by ensuring we look for multiple outcomes in all we do. By ensuring we think about each of the national Well-being Goals below we maximise our contribution to the Wales We Want.

Goal	Description of the Goal
A prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including action on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
A resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).
A healthier Wales	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
A more equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
A Wales of cohesive communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
A globally responsible Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

Our Commitments

In addition, all Swansea PSB Partners have signed up to a set of commitments. These commitments are below and go beyond the legal duties that the different organisations have and are reviewed taking account of advice from Wales' Commissioners.

- **Healthy City Status**

Swansea is part of the Healthy Cities network promoting good health and addressing health inequality in our communities.

- **Swansea as a Human Rights City**

Swansea Public Services Board supports the development of a Human Rights City approach in Swansea.

- **Children and Young People's Rights (UNCRC)**

The Board is committed to making sure that services have a positive effect on children and young people in Swansea and have embedded the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into the way we set our policies.

- **First 1000 Days Collaborative**

Swansea Public Services Board has joined the First 1000 Days collaborative, which supports families throughout pregnancy and the first two years of life.

- **Age Friendly Cities and Communities**

The Board endorses the principles and actions set out in the Dublin Declaration on Age-Friendly Cities and Communities in Europe.

- **Good Practice in Public Engagement**

The Board endorses the National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales and will follow them in all engagement and consultation. The Board is committed to engaging people who are interested in improving local well-being in the development of both the Well-being Assessment and the Well-being Plan and will strive to reflect the diversity of the population when doing so.

- **Participation of Children and Young People**

The Board is committed to the principles of the National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation.

- **Armed Forces Community Covenant**

The Board is committed to the Armed Forces Community Covenant and to nurturing understanding and awareness amongst the public of the issues affecting the armed forces community.

- **Convention on Biological Diversity**

The Board is committed to delivering the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity as set out in the adopted Swansea Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2005.

- **One Public Sector**

The Board is committed to a culture that cuts across organisational boundaries and sectors. Where everyone involved in the delivery of public services in Wales is part of

this common endeavour, sharing common values and working together for the benefit of the people of Wales

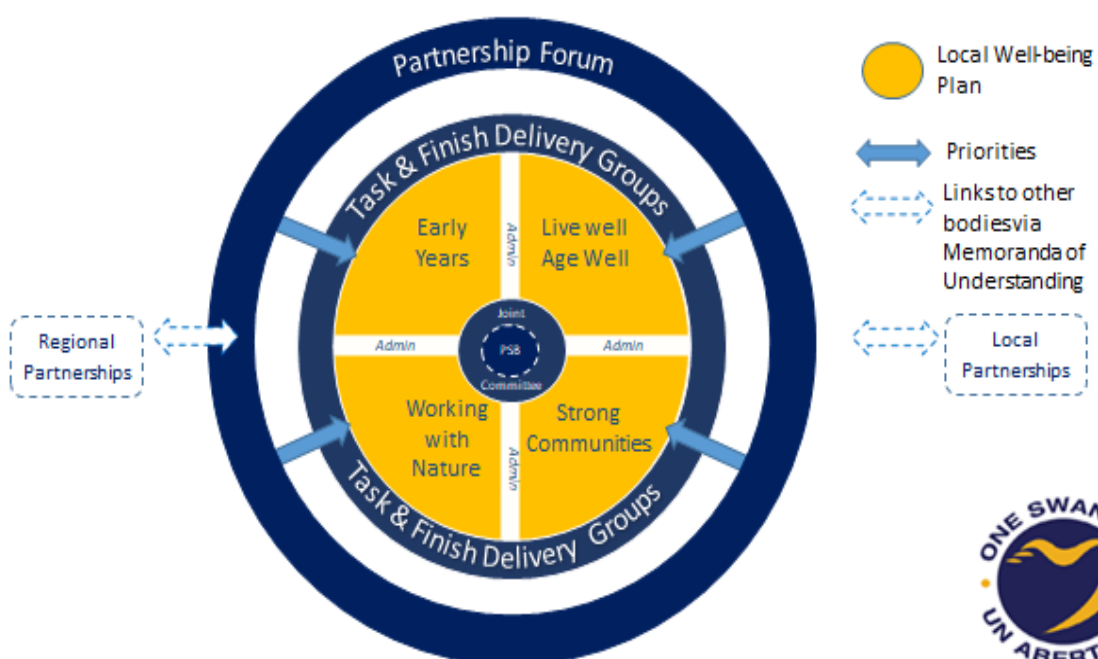
How we work

The limitations of the previous PSB governance structure were recognised and a Governance Review was undertaken to address this. The Review also took on board advice from the Future Generations Commissioner and a new Governance structure was put in place. The new Governance arrangements embraces sustainable ways of working and places the delivery of the Well-being Objectives at the heart of what the PSB is trying to do to make a difference.

The key principle of the review was that the work of the PSB is a core part rather than an addition to the existing work of its members. All levels of organisational staff should see PSB priorities as the day job not an additional responsibility.

The Statutory PSB members along with the wider Core Group have proposed that the PSB benefit from a streamlined governance process with the a new focus on delivery objectives as the driver of the PSB. This is a real opportunity to focus the PSB on making a difference by shifting the emphasis to the Objective Delivery Groups. Involvement can be more meaningful and involve a wider range of partners through the creation of a Partnership Forum. Task and finish groups will be formed in response to need and draw on the skills and expertise of the Partnership Forum organisations.

Decision making governance will be expedited at a strategic level via a Joint Committee consisting of the PSB Statutory members and invited participants. This group will also provide advocacy and support at a strategic level for issues raised by PSB partners through the Objective delivery groups each of which will be co-ordinated and facilitated by a statutory member. The PSB Joint Committee meetings are held bi-monthly and the Partnership Forums take place every 6 months.



Whilst Swansea PSB has consciously sought to improve how we involve “unusual suspects” there is still scope to include a wider stakeholder audience and opportunities to further involve the public more regularly moving forward.

Regional Working takes place via joint meetings between Swansea and Neath Port Talbot PSBs. Focus has been on Substance misuse/ drug related deaths/ county lines which is still being progressed, reviewed and monitored. This year we have been looking at suicide and self-harm prevention.

The Joint meeting that took place recently reported on progress being made on the suicide and self-harm prevention work for Swansea and Neath Port Talbot. It looked at the actions that are being progressed and future plans, including the new role for the Safeguarding Board in relation to data / intelligence function. To be aware of the challenges faced and need for continued multi-agency engagement and commitment to collaborative working to address the issues.

Swansea's Local Well-being

The previous annual report (2019) introduced an initial 'basket' of population-level measures, focusing on a selection of the Welsh Government's National Indicators, to inform an initial view of well-being in Swansea.

This chapter of the report summarises the latest situation in Swansea and recent local trends in these indicators, using the latest published statistics:

- The **healthy life expectancy gap** between the most and least deprived areas in Swansea (2010-14) was 21.9 years for males (Wales 18.7) and 16.3 years for females (Wales 18.2). Since 2005-09, the gaps have slightly reduced for males in Swansea (from 22.4 years), but increased for females (from 15.0). There have been no recent updates to the 2010-14 data at a local level. (*National Indicator 2*)
- 11.0% of adults in Swansea reported fewer than two (of the five) healthy **lifestyle behaviours** (Wales 10.1%) (National Survey for Wales data, 2017-19). Swansea is currently worse than the Welsh average for smoking (including e-cigarettes) and drinking (above guidelines), but better than the Welsh average on measures of eating fruit and vegetables, physical activity and healthy weight. (*NI 3*)
- **Air quality** in Swansea, as measured by annual average levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) pollution exposure, has continued to improve; falling from 13.9 µg/m³ in 2008 to 9.5 in 2018 (modelled data – pollutants per cubic metre of air). However, average NO₂ concentrations in Wales are slightly lower (8.9 µg/m³ in 2018). (*NI 4*)
- In 2018-19, an estimated 14.5% of people aged 16+ living in households in Swansea live in **material deprivation** (that is, cannot afford particular goods and activities that are typical in society at a given point in time); above the Wales average (13.6%) but decreasing from 20.6% in 2017-18. However these are (national) survey-based estimates so short-term changes at a local level should be viewed with caution. (*NI 19*)
- 81% of adults in Swansea were moderately or very satisfied with their jobs in 2017-18 (Wales 82%), falling from 86% in the previous year (2016-17). Employed respondents are asked to rate their **job satisfaction** on a scale from 0 to 10, and this includes those that answered 6 or above. The question was not asked in the 2018-19 National Survey, so no update is available. (*NI 20*)
- In 2018-19, 76% of adults in Swansea **felt safe** (Wales 71%). Respondents were asked how safe they felt after dark at home, walking in the local area, and travelling (on a five point scale). Those that responded either 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' to all three questions were coded by the National Survey as 'feeling safe'. The Swansea figure has increased since the question was last asked in the survey (2016-17: 66%) (*NI 25*)
- In the National Survey 2018-19, 46.6% of people aged 16+ in Swansea agreed with all three statements related to **community cohesion** (Wales 52.2%):

people agreeing that they belong to the area; people from different backgrounds get on well together; people treat each other with respect. The Swansea figures for the individual statements were 66%, 75% and 75% respectively, with the Swansea figure for 'belonging' the furthest below the Wales average (72%). (NI 27)

- **Volunteering** is undertaken by 26% of people aged 16+ in Swansea in 2017-18 (slightly below the Wales average of 28%). These figures reflect people who stated that they currently (at time of survey) give their time for free (formally and informally) to help a list of clubs or organisations. (NI 28)
- The National Survey also includes a set of six questions to assess levels of **loneliness**, calculated using the De Jong Gierveld loneliness scale. Based on these, 17% of people aged 16+ in Swansea (16% in Wales) were found to be lonely in 2017-18; slightly lower than in 2016-17 (19% in Swansea, 17% in Wales). This question wasn't asked in the 2018-19 survey, so no further update is available. (NI 30)
- The number of households for whom **homelessness** was successfully prevented for at least 6 months, as a rate per 10,000 households, is also a National Indicator. During 2018-19 the rate for Swansea was 81.8 per 10,000 households, up from 73.7 in 2017-18 (Wales: 54.0 in 2018-19; 44.9 in 2017-18). In November 2019, there were an estimated 37 rough sleepers in Swansea, within a Wales total of 405. (NI 34)
- In terms of **child obesity**, 74.8% of children in reception year (aged 4 to 5) were of healthy weight in 2017-18, above the equivalent Wales rate (73.6%). The Swansea figure has fluctuated but remained relatively constant overall since 2012-13 (74.2%). There have been no recent updates to this data. (*Thriving Places measure*)
- Last year's report included a measure of **children obtaining five or more GCSEs A* to C** including English or Welsh language and Maths in 2017-18. However, Welsh Government has since changed the reporting of their Key Stage 4 indicators, and currently use a set of interim performance measures. This has also resulted in changes to the equivalent *Thriving Places* measure for 2020. In 2018-19, the percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 inclusive in Swansea (equivalent to the volume of 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C including English/Welsh or Mathematics), at 57.3%, is higher than the Welsh average of 53.8%.

During last year there have been a number of publications related to the local measurement of well-being in Wales:

- In September 2019, Welsh Government published their latest annual *Well-being of Wales* report. As part of this release, some of the 46 National Indicators were also updated (where possible). This was a shorter, more-focused update report than previously; it is now Welsh Government's intention

to provide a more in depth analysis every 4-5 years, to take stock of longer term progress.

- In October 2019, as part of their on-going Measuring National Well-being (MNW) programme, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published *Personal Well-being in the UK* – containing estimates of life satisfaction, feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile, happiness and anxiety from UK to local authority level, using data from ONS' Annual Population Survey. On all four measures, Swansea mean scores are slightly worse than the Wales and UK averages for 2018-19.
- In March 2020, Data Cymru published the latest version of *Thriving Places Wales*, developed in partnership with the Centre for Thriving Places (formerly Happy City). The tool measures the relative prevalence of conditions for well-being and quality of life at a local authority level in Wales, using a wide range of indicators (currently 55) across three 'domains' of well-being. In the 2020 index, Swansea has better conditions for well-being than the Wales average in the 'Sustainability' and 'Equality' domains, but is worse than the Wales average in the 'Local Conditions' domain.

Swansea's next Assessment of Local Well-being is currently scheduled to be completed and published by spring 2022; and preparations for the next assessment will begin during the year ahead. This will consider national advice and any other developments in the measurement of well-being.

Progress towards Our Local Well-being Objectives

Early Years



To ensure that children have the best start in life to be the best that they can be.

Lead – This work is co-ordinated by the Early Years Steering Group and led by Swansea University Health Board.

Partners/ Stakeholders Involved

Early Years Partnership	Early Years Steering Group	Swansea Council- Education	Flying Start Link Teachers/Foundation Phase Strategic Lead
Public Health Wales	Early Intervention Services	Childcare sector/ Family Information Service	Swansea Bay University Health Board
Primary Care Early Years Pilot	Healthy Pre School Scheme	Active Young People Team	Jig-So service
Early Years Progression Officer	Early Learning and Language Development Team	Health Visiting	University Wales Trinity Saint David
Families, Community groups	Flying Start childcare settings	Midwifery	

Since April 2019 there have been staffing changes within the Early Years workstream, which led to the role of the Objective Lead and the role of the Chair becoming vacant.

As an interim measure, operational officers of the sub-group maintained the activity agreed under the 18/19 action plan. The officers also undertook a review of activity to date in order to enable a take-stock appraisal with a view of refreshing the work plan for 20/21. This issue has now been resolved recently with the newly appointed Director of Public Health, Dr Keith Reid taking up the role of both Chair and Objective Lead for Early Years.

Overview of work within Early Years

Jig-so is a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary team involving health and local authority staff. The project aims to offer support to young or vulnerable parents (aged 24yrs and under) at the earliest possible opportunity - in the first 1000 days of their children's lives.

The team consists of 7 midwives, 4 nursery nurses, 3 early language workers and 5 parenting workers. All are co-located and work together as one team. Due to the multi-agency structure of the team, it is able to offer a greater level of individualised support than other agencies are able to provide. The success of the services is measured on reducing the number of children that enter the care system and reducing adverse childhood experiences.

Having been operational for 3 years, the project is now established. This year, an independent evaluation was undertaken by Swansea University which identified a number of the benefits by taking a multi-agency team approach. The year-long study found significant return on investment and positive outcomes for all families that accessed the service. This study used both quantitative and qualitative research methods and was funded by the Welsh School of Research grant.

Achievements

- Improved integrated working between generic midwives and Jig-so midwives which has enhanced the early identification of need and created a seamless referral pathway from universal midwifery services to more specialised provision.
- Improved interagency working with Action for Children which includes regular referral and case management meetings.
- Improved case management between social services and the Jig-so team parenting officers, enabling a comprehensive and flexible response to the complex needs of the most vulnerable families.
- Established pathways of support for families within the wider Early Intervention Service (EIS) area
- Joint work with the wider EIS service, to ensure the needs of parents, older than 24 years of age, are supported through a 'virtual' Jig-so model of support.
- Jig-so has been recognised and deemed as an example of good practice by Welsh Government in supporting families in the early years.
- The project was shortlisted for the Health Service Journal Award under the Health and Local Government Partnership Category.

- Demonstrable better health and social outcomes for the young parents and a large proportion who were referred to the Jig-so project.
- A reduction in children and families requiring social services support and removed from the 'at risk' register.
- Parents that had access the EIS reported feeling more confident and supported in their parental role.

The Challenges/ Barriers

- Continued project development and innovation.
- Overcoming the variation in multi-agency policies and procedures.
- Developing and maintaining the project in times of austerity.
- Managing service demand for the service against actual service capacity.
- Potential budget pressures for 2020/2021.

Future work

- Continue to develop and expand Jig-so
- Look at further opportunities to continue to demonstrate the impact of the project.

Jig-so stakeholders/ partners involved - Swansea Bay University Health Board and Local Authority, City & County of Swansea

Primary Care Child and Family Well-being Team (PCCFWT) (GP Network) is funded by 3 out of 5 GP Cluster Networks in Swansea. It is a collaborative initiative funded by health and delivered by staff within Swansea Council's Early Intervention Services. The project aims to improve family wellbeing and resilience through the offer of tailored, home based interventions for families with children from birth to the age of 11 years, who present at their local GP with concerns regarding children's behaviour and development.

The team consists of 2 full-time family workers that are employed by City & County of Swansea. The project is now established and has been in operation for 3 years. An independent evaluation of the project by Swansea University identified a number of benefits of this collaborative approach.

Achievements

- Improved multi-disciplinary working at GP cluster level
- Improved referral pathway's established between other early intervention services and third sector providers.
- This innovative service is the first of its kind in the UK.
- The project has evidenced significant cost avoidance for wider services that would have been incurred by the families engaging in this service .
- It has demonstrated a reduction in GP demand and appointment time.
- In May 2019 the project was shortlisted as a finalist in the Academi Wales Award for Improving Outcomes for People In Wales.

- The project won the NHS Wales Award under the category of Improving Patient Wellbeing.
- The project was shortlisted for the Royal College of General Practitioners - Cluster Innovation Award. The project came second in this award.

The project continues to achieve the service delivery outcomes. An evaluation was undertaken in 18/19 in collaboration with Public Health Wales, Swansea University, 1,000 Lives Improvement Collaborative, Wavehill Ltd, and Swansea University Health Board. The evaluation demonstrated the service produced a potential cost saving of £86,315 in upstream health and social services costs including an estimated £16,759 in GP appointments. Of the cases examined in the evaluation, 100% of families reported an improvement in all areas of wellbeing for both children and adults.

The project was unsuccessful for national Pacesetter funding and the priority is now to secure a new funding stream for this nationally recognised award winning service.

A funding proposal to scale up this service, across all GP cluster areas in NPT and Swansea, has been endorsed by the Children and Young Peoples Transformation Board (a sub-group of the Regional Partnership Board (RPB)).

Future Work

- To continue to manage capacity and demand.
- To continue to explore continuity funding options.

Primary Care Child and Family Well-being Team (PCCFWT) (GP Network) Partners/ Stakeholders involved- GP Clusters, Swansea Bay University Health Board and City and County of Swansea

Additional Learning Needs (ALN) - Non flying Start Training

A suite of training was identified, planned and delivered. The training supported Swansea's Early Years Childcare settings (private and third sector childcare) to have a better understanding and provide due regard to the ALN Code.

The training aimed to raise awareness among the childcare workforce to understand their duties around ALN. The training supported staff to prepare and maintain individual development plans (IDP's) and support the workforce to collaborate with parents, specialist provision and the Local Authority.

The roll out of the training has been postponed until summer 2020 following early feedback from initial work that has been undertaken. The training strategy will take a 'train the trainer' approach to upskilling the workforce.

Training places will be offered to 160 members of the childcare workforce in Swansea. Since the delivery of the initial training sessions, the Education Psychologist and Childcare Opportunities Manager are developing an enhanced training plan after additional training needs around ALN were identified. The initial awareness raising sessions highlighted that the childcare workforce requires a greater intensity of training around understanding ALN, the pathways to support, and referral processes.

Challenges/ barriers

One of three ALN training sessions has been delivered to over 40 childcare managers and Special Education Needs Coordinators (SENCO) within the non-maintained sector. It has become clear that the non-maintained workforce requires additional training and support around their understanding of ALN and the referral pathways.

Future work

- Since the delivery of the initial sessions, the Additional Learning Needs Coordinator, and Childcare Opportunities Manager are in the process of developing an enhanced training plan that will take a 'train the trainer' approach to upskilling the workforce.

Additional Learning Needs Training Initiative- Partners/ Stakeholders involved
Flying Start, Education, Health and Speech and Language.

Additional Learning Needs Grant – 30 Hour Funded Childcare Offer- This is funding awarded through the ALN Grant for childcare providers to provide increased access to childcare for 3 & 4 year olds and support each child's individual developmental needs.

The funding can also be used to help upskill the workforce with training such as support for dealing with specific medical needs or more general training that is directly linked to the provision of care for a specific child.

SKIP Meithrin – Early Physical Development

SKIP Meithrin is the evidence based early years movement programme that we have developed and delivered alongside Dr Nalda Wainwright from the University of Wales Trinity St David, the Wales Institute of Physical Literacy, Swansea Active Young People Team & The Family Resource Team.

The programme's ambition is to upskill the childcare workforce so they can provide a range of developmentally appropriate movement experiences of the children in their care. The outcome of the programme is to support the development of the physical competency among the early years and achieve the optimal outcomes in physical development and educational attainment.

By helping develop children's fundamental motor skills we are helping children to build a movement vocabulary that will serve them going forward and help them be the best that they can be in respect of their physical development and physical activity and readiness for school. The aim is to develop a good foundation of movement skills to provide children with opportunities to engage well with physical activity over the course of their life.

Achievements

- 3 mentors have undertaken the Level 4 **Developing and Supporting Physical Development in Early Childhood** module.

- A 12 week intervention programme delivered in 11 early years settings across Swansea.
- The evidence to support the expansion of the SKIP Meithrin programme across Swansea has recently been submitted and agreed by Welsh Government.

Challenges/ Barriers

- Capacity to roll out 12 week programme to all early years settings is limited to staff time and maintaining setting ratios.
- Financial uncertainty around supporting training and resources.

Future Work

- The rollout of support to early years' settings is progressing, with 3 additional settings joining the programme and receiving 12-week support. It is an aim to achieve complete coverage across all early years' settings in time.
- To improve the mentoring of the staff working with the children in settings.
- To continue to mentor the setting that have accessed the SKIP Meithrin training to ensure that the learning translates into practice.

SKIP Meithrin- Partners/ Stakeholders involved

University of Wales Trinity St David (UWTSD), Flying Start, Non maintained day nurseries, Active Young People Team, Family Resource Team, City and County of Swansea, Public Health Wales

Welsh Government Pathfinder Early Years Integration is a Welsh Government sponsored transformation programme that seeks to create a streamlined local early years' system, from conception to age 7 and enables every child in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot to have the same outcomes and the same opportunities.

Swansea PSB are now collaborating with Neath Port Talbot PSB as part of the Early Years Pathfinder Programme. It is the vision that local services are seamless and sufficiently agile in responding to the impact of social adversity and escalating need.

Achievements

- The appointment of the Pathfinder Co-ordinator.
- The organisation of a mapping event looking at services across the four areas of focus.
- The development and submission of the Project Initiation Document agreed by the Project Board in November 2019
- The identification of Llŵchwr as the pilot area of focus. Two successful mapping events took place in December 2019 which has mapped all the services across, Health, Play, Learning and Family Support from conception to age 7. Draft pathway maps have been developed and the workforce are currently engaging with the process through surveys and a consultation in March.
- With the approval of the programme board, a financial proposal has been submitted to Welsh Government to test an integrated service model at Llŵchwr

primary care cluster area. The project board has received feedback from Welsh Government and the proposal is currently being refined and due for resubmission.

- Draft pathway maps have been developed that capture the early years' pathway across health, play, learning and family support. A consultation event took place on the 10th of March.
- Llŵchwr primary care cluster integration project has received positive feedback from Welsh Government and the proposal is currently being refined and due for imminent resubmission.

Welsh Government Pathfinder Early Years Integration- Partners/ Stakeholders involved- NPT Local Authority, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Public Health Wales.

To summarise, significant progress has been made in all the above mentioned areas. The action plan is currently being refreshed in order to build upon the progress that has taken place to date and to secure partnership endorsement to pursue the plan during next year.

Live Well, Age Well



To make Swansea a great place to live well and age well.

Lead – This work is co-ordinated by the Live Well, Age Well working group and led by Swansea Council.

Partners/ Stakeholders Involved

Swansea Bay University Health Board	Dementia Friendly Swansea	Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board	Swansea Council- Education	Swansea Council- Social Services
Swansea University	South Wales Police	Alzheimer’s Society
Pobl	Schools	Housing Associations
Universities	Health	Coastal Housing
Voluntary sector	Private Sector	

Overview of work within Live Well, Age Well

Progress has been made against many of the ‘steps’ outlined in the Well-being Plan as demonstrated below.

Culture change – To start a debate across generations about what it means to live and age well and develop a campaign based on the feedback.

To drive forward this step, citizen engagement and participation has been a key feature through mechanisms such as the Big Conversation, Live Well, Age Well Forum and other Intergenerational Opportunities.

Big Conversations

1,521 people had opportunities to have their voices heard. Having them involved has made a real difference to our plans and services. Engagement in events during this period has also taken place with children aged 7-11 from 32 primary schools, young people aged 11-18 from 13 secondary schools and with 12 adults from a range of day services, adult forums and residential care settings.

In the academic year 2018-19 focused on each of the objectives contained within the well-being plan. For academic year 2019/20 it focused on the four guiding principles of the UNCRC therefore children, young people and adults have worked together to explore participation and best interests (reports for each were circulated to the PSB).

14 Councillors and Senior Officers also attended to participate in question and answer sessions, enquiries and sessions:

- **Big Conversation County-wide Forums:** 795 children, young people and older people participated in Big Conversations exploring topics such as LGBTQIA+, alternative education, ALN codes of practice, city redevelopment, housing and homeless, stronger communities and working with nature, (3 of which were for children of primary school age, 3 for young people of secondary school age, and 2 intergenerational Big Conversations).
- **Big Conversations for those who have experienced care:** 67 children took part in forums to let us know what is important for children in care and those who have been, and have now left.
- **Big Conversations to discuss Community Cohesion:** 50 young people took part in opportunities for facilitated discussions around issues such as extremism, rumours in communities, community cohesion, racism and prejudice.
- **School Project Work:** 609 children worked with through visits to schools, to school councils and other school clubs.

2019 saw the celebration of the 5th anniversary of Swansea's Children's Rights Scheme in Swansea.

The event was a celebration of Swansea's Rights journey so far and of the many people from schools, communities and services who work together to make Swansea's commitment to rights a reality for children and young people.

204 children, young people and service providers participated and 72 children, young people and service providers facilitated stall and activities at the National Waterfront Museum, where rights were celebrated through activities, speeches, information stalls and consultation opportunities.

What difference has listening made?

People are valuable in helping to create better services. Decision-makers and workshop providers gave feedback on topics children discuss in the form of "You Said - We Did - This Means". Some of the outcomes are below:

Equalities: Councillors held discussions with children and young people focusing on experiences of inequality. These views helped inform Swansea's Equalities Scrutiny Report.

Alternative Education: Young people had a say on the new site for Alternative Education Provision in Swansea. Their ideas helped inform the design process of the buildings.

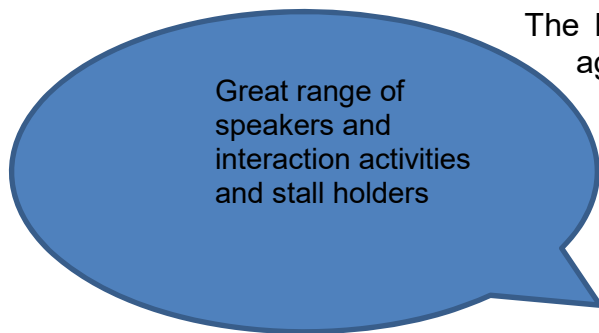
Period Poverty: Schools have introduced schemes where pupils can access free sanitary products at any point in the school day to help combat absenteeism resulting from period poverty.

Resources: "The Family that learnt to listen", a Children's storybook and "I Have a Voice", a video resource, has been developed by Care Experienced Children and Young People.

Recruitment: Young people who receive a service from Children's Services devised, facilitated, scored and evaluated a young person's section of recruitment process for Principle Officer Posts

Counter Extremism: Young people and volunteers from groups, schools and clubs in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot met to discuss counter-terrorism and are working on community action projects to counter far-right narratives locally

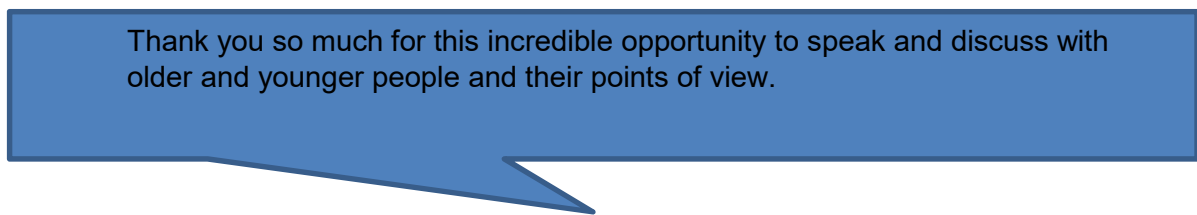
Children's Rights Scheme: Consultation with children, young people and adults has begun the process of reviewing Swansea's Children and Young People's Rights Scheme to ensure rights based practice is relevant, appropriate and fit for purpose in Swansea.



The **Live Well, Age Well Forums** for citizens aged 50+, co-ordinated by Swansea Council, have been attracting greater numbers of participants over the last year, with each forum/event attracting between 60 and 80 people. 2019/20 has so far seen topics chosen by participants and co-ordinated in a variety of ways, offering presentations, discussions and debate along with

workshops and market place information and advice stalls. There is always an area set aside for 'a cuppa and chat', which is valued by all. The themes of Digital Inclusion, Communication and Information, Health and Well-being, Transport & Getting about & Staying Safe were covered in 2019/20.

As noted above, **Intergenerational Big Conversations** were initiated during the year, to which representatives of the 50+ age group were invited, along with other members of the public. Good feedback was received with all participants taking something positive from the events.



The **Live Well, Age Well newsletter** is sent to those on our mailing list, Third Sector organisations and community groups and it is produced quarterly. The content is based on the five ways to wellbeing, namely Connect, Give, Keep Active, Learn and Take Notice*. Relevant diary dates are included along with consultation opportunities, information, links to organisations, research and volunteer opportunities etc. relevant to the season and the themes above. (* developed by the New Economics Foundation)

Innovative approaches to health and social care – Supporting Dementia Friendly Communities

Dementia Friendly Generations is a digital storytelling project to bring together the young and older people of Swansea, to create an understanding of Dementia and to explore issues around being young and old, to learn from each other and to celebrate those moments through finding and telling our stories.

The Dementia Friendly Generations project aims to support people with dementia to improve their sense of wellbeing and to have a stronger sense of control and a voice in sharing their life experiences with the younger generation while more fully engaging and participating as members of their community.

The project was funded by the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) with the vision to develop a “Dementia Friendly Generation” and raise awareness of dementia across Swansea. Council teams work in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Society to develop this project.

The “Dementia Friendly Generations” project was split into two parts, Dementia Friendly Schools & Dementia Friendly Homes. Central to the project were intergenerational music and storytelling sessions. This work was facilitated by a community arts organisation called People Speak Up. The organisation has been commissioned to facilitate several storytelling sessions bringing young and older people together through stories, song and conversation. The aim of the Dementia Friendly Schools pilot was to encourage peer mentoring from pilot schools to schools within clusters and across Swansea. The Dementia project has worked with 4 primary schools (Gendros, Bishopston, Sketty, St Joseph’s), 2 secondary schools (Pontarddulais & Pentrehafod) 110 pupils and 30 residents/service users from “The Hollies” and “St John’s Day Service” have been engaged. Five Dementia Champions have been trained and have provided Dementia Information Sessions to teaching staff, pupils, care home/service staff and residents/service users.

Pontarddulais Comprehensive School have become the first school in Swansea to receive official recognition by the Alzheimer’s Society and become a Dementia Friendly School.

The project was visited last year by the Older People’s Commissioner for Wales and the Welsh Assembly Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services.

The “Dementia Friendly Homes” project involved the commissioning of People Speak Up (PSU) and Sound Memories Radio to deliver a Dementia Friendly Generations pilot project ‘To be in the Now’- A dementia inclusive life story project empowering 4 older people living in Swansea, their families and their carers to enhance community communication, resilience and connectivity and enable older people living with dementia to be part of their own solution.

The project involved collaboration between Social Services, People Speak Up, Swansea Bay University Health Board Community Resource Team, Local Area Co-ordination and Swansea Carers Centre.

A booklet involving three families was produced by People Speak Up (PSU) and Sound Memories Radio to celebrate the project. The booklet is called “To be in the now” and was about creating bespoke life story resources for older people living at home with Dementia. The three participants (Violet, Margaret & Arthur) and their stories can be seen in the link below:

<https://www.flipsnack.com/teachchanting/to-be-in-the-now.html?fbclid=IwAR3EOFs06hOf-J-rJsEyAGmz5eGkj-jEdnF-9Q-ChypHNrDsYNVxHu-yOOK>

Innovative approaches to health and social care – Maximising existing approaches and exploring evidence-based approaches to end of life care

Adult Social Services and Care Home Managers have been working in partnership with the Macmillan end of life care coordinator in Swansea Bay University Health Board to review and enhance end of life practices within Local Authority homes. This has included using the Western Bay Regional Quality Framework to guide developments, introducing 'End of Life' champions across care homes, developing a robust reference file around end of life practice and innovation and developing a pack which includes information for carers.

Champions have been identified across services and staff members have been identified to be the service leads in specific areas. The teams have additional training, mentoring and 6 weekly support group meetings to enhance practice and keep up with the latest developments and best practice. This has enabled exploration of advance care planning and the challenges to having what can be quite difficult conversations for some.

Information packs “Your life matters” have been developed which begins with the important issue of finding out who the person is and what matters to them in life and then to experience a good death.

Community based approaches – Exploring a range of initiatives to tackle social isolation and build personal resilience across PSB and voluntary sector

The Local Area Co-ordinators approach continues to work in our communities. They help anyone build relationships within their community and it also supports older, disabled, people with mental health problems and their families.

Local Area Coordination in Swansea has expanded with 5 new colleagues joining the team. The interview process involved community collaboration across five areas of Swansea, with input from people from all walks of life (including men's sheds, friends of parks groups, walking groups, mental health support groups, craft groups, bereavement support groups, churches and partner organisations: Coastal, Pobl, Citizens Advice Bureau and SCVS (Swansea Council for Voluntary Service).

The community involvement in the process is vital and allows there to be community ownership of the role from the start. The relationship building and learning that happens during the community discussion sessions is carried over when the new local area coordinator is getting to know their area and the residents of the community.

The areas that will now be covered include the communities of Murryston, Clase, Llangyfelach, Clydach, Birchgrove, Hafod, Plasmarl, Landore, Treboeth, Gowerton, Penclawdd and Loughor bringing the total number of local area coordinators to 16. For the past 4 and a half years, people and communities throughout Swansea have benefited from having a coordinator walking alongside them as they identify and work towards their version of a good life.

Anyone can be introduced to a coordinator if they live in an area that is covered. Local Area Coordinators work in a strength-based way and take time to get to know people, their families and communities.

St. John's Day Service have also been working together co-productively to develop community services and placing the service at the heart of the local community, building lasting relationships with people, challenging stereotypes and breaking down barriers so that people feel able to ask for help and support. These initiatives have a preventative impact and help to reduce the need for formal support in the local area.

Three initiatives have been particularly highlighted around St John's

- Further developing the Community Garden - St John's has recently set up a men's shed "Action Shack" to support men experiencing issues around loneliness or mental health. Part of the garden is now home to a new memorial space, and St John's is custodian of two memorial plaques listing the names of local brave heroes who lost their lives during the First World War
- Cae Rowland Community Transport Scheme -St John's has developed a community transport scheme which is supported by volunteers and is very busy. Vulnerable people need to access the community, whether this is attending an appointment, visiting friends or family, shopping or going out for coffee. St John's has a link with Neath and Port Talbot hospital's rapid response unit to enable people who have no other support to get to their appointments on time.
- St. John's values volunteers and has many people who come to the service from all walks of life, including adults with a learning disability, retired people, young people looking for work experience, people who have been out of work for many years. They have been integral to the work within the day service and the wider community.

St John's projects were visited before Christmas by the Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Helena Herklots and also the Welsh Assembly Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services, Julie Morgan. Both were pleased to learn more about the projects.

Innovative housing and technology – To explore options for people with additional care needs that help them remain independent at home

A review around this area will be undertaken in 20/21.

Making every contact count – The development and sharing of joint messages and resources that support people remain safe and independent in their homes. The concept of making every contact count will be explored in 20/21 through the Health Literacy working group which will be discussed further on within the report.

During 19/20 the main focus has been to revisit existing steps in the Wellbeing Plan under this objective to establish what is business as usual and what actions would benefit from a collective partnership approach.

A mapping exercise of existing work on “Ageing Well” was carried out and relevant areas fed into the Live Well Age Well objective to ensure nothing was lost and a series of partnership workshops were held to reflect the journey and identify key areas of work going forward.

Achievements

- Ensured there is a link to the Early Years Objective to ensure there is a seamless approach and pathway across the age ranges.
- Ensured there is a link with the Stronger Communities objective to understand the similarities between the two and avoid duplication.
- Good Partnership buy in around the objective.
- Huge amount of work around this area is already underway.
- Expanded knowledge base through existing involvement out to wider partners.

Challenges/ Barriers

- Not joining up existing work so that we are able to make sure it adds value and not duplicate business as usual.
- Not having the right people around the table to take the necessary action or make a decision to be able to deliver the outcome.
- How to expand the lens and age range of this objective.

Future Work

A more thematic approach has been and will be taken around three key priorities, which encompass all elements of the original steps outlined to move forward.

The Live Well Age Well Objective Group has used the information gathered to identify three key priorities and establish SMART targets and actions for each of these priorities.

The agreed three priorities to focus on for 20/21 are as follows,

- **A City for All** - Map existing City status and their associated commitments; identify opportunities, overlaps and commonalities with a strengths based focus and understand what a “City for All” means for citizens of Swansea
- **Active Travel** – Carry out an audit to determine obstacles, barriers and problems, utilising the Older People’s External Residential Assessment Tool (OPERAT) Model and pilot

- **Health Literacy/Healthy Ageing** – Colleagues from Public Health Wales, Swansea Council and the third sector are exploring two priorities:
 - A shared health literacy checklist (looking at top 5 such as Dementia, Smoking, Sugar free, Green space, best start) and agree top 5 themes and establish if there is a quality mark/standard to roll out across the PSB
 - To support the new report on “Healthy Ageing” and the “Dementia Risk Reduction Campaign” which was launched at the end of January 2020. The campaign aims to encourage people to live healthier lifestyles. The campaign follows research by Prof Peter Elwood at Cardiff University, who found a healthier life can reduce a person's risk of getting early onset dementia. His study - over 35 years looking at people in Caerphilly - found a "huge benefit".

Three separate working groups have been established to drive forward the priorities and partnership leads identified to take actions forward between January – March 2020 to inform delivery for 20/21.

Each priority has a specific working group with a nominated lead and a draft action plan with expected outcomes and timelines.

Partners/ Stakeholders involved- PSB partners, wider partners outside of the PSB, operational leads and citizens across the age ranges.

Working with Nature



To improve health, enhance biodiversity and reduce our carbon footprint.

Lead – This work is coordinated by the Working with Nature Task Group and led by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Swansea Environmental Forum (SEF).

Partners / Stakeholders Involved

Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	Swansea Environmental Forum	Swansea Council
Swansea University	Swansea Local Nature Partnership	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue
Swansea Bay University Health Board	Low Carbon Swansea Bay network	The Environment Centre
Swansea Community Green Spaces Project	Swansea Tree Forum	Welsh Government
Green Infrastructure Consultancy		

Overview of work within Working with Nature

The Working with Nature objective highlights the importance of the natural environment to health and well-being and sets out proposals for increasing green infrastructure and biodiversity, reducing our carbon footprint and improving our understanding of natural resources and sustainability.

Swansea's natural environment is one of outstanding quality and beauty. The diversity of landscapes, habitats and species it supports makes it one of the most attractive and ecologically rich counties in the UK.

A Working with Nature Task Group has been established with representatives of PSB members and other partners to develop and deliver an action plan for this objective.

The following sections outline progress that has been made related to action areas in the Working with Nature Action Plan.

Green Infrastructure



Green Infrastructure (GI) is a term used to describe all the features of the natural environment between and within our towns and cities.

Natural Resources Wales came together with Swansea Council realising that we needed to have a strategic approach to urban greening across the city centre.

Swansea residents and businesses have helped draft a key plan to help deliver a greener city.

Their ideas and thoughts, gathered through public consultation this year have been woven into Regenerating our City for Wellbeing and Wildlife, a draft Swansea city centre green infrastructure strategy. The overwhelming message from our public engagement was that city nature is important to people; it increases their enjoyment and the time they spend in the city centre.

The draft strategy developed by Swansea Council, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and the Green Infrastructure Consultancy was presented to the council's cabinet on October 17. It promotes a joined-up approach to incorporating green infrastructure in future city centre regeneration work. The strategy explores the benefits and cost-effectiveness of green infrastructure in terms of flood-risk reduction, cleaner air and water, reductions in noise, gains in biodiversity and reduced CO2 emissions. This strategy also sets out a vision for central Swansea to be much greener, creating green spaces and using a combination of street-level features like street trees and rain gardens as well as vegetation on buildings, including green roofs and green walls. Green cover in the city is currently estimated at 13 per cent but the aim is to increase this to 26 per cent by 2030. It aims to help deliver:

- a greener city, with fewer hard surfaces, to help create a city centre that is a more attractive place in which to live and more resilient to climate change;
- inclusion of more nature to provide spaces for wildlife, bring people pleasure and offer an improved experience for visitors and traders.
- a more economically prosperous hub for the region in years to come by encouraging strategically planned green infrastructure enhancements in new and existing developments.

It will help developers improve the city centre by bringing nature into their developments. This will create spaces people want to visit and improve wellbeing, the economy and the environment.

The head of South Wales operations for NRW said "We're excited that this strategy has benefitted from not just the ideas and advice of specialists but that the local community has had a chance to have their say on the kind of green city they want to see. Green infrastructure provides an opportunity for Swansea to bring nature into the heart of the city and widen its appeal to residents and visitors alike. This will bring multiple benefits, such as boosting biodiversity and improving climate change

resilience. This project will give us the opportunity to create a vibrant city that improves the wellbeing of residents and visitors, whilst making a home for wildlife. We're thrilled to be a part of this project and look forward to working with our partners to bring these ideas to life”.

Other major projects are planned and the new strategy will guide developers on how nature can be integrated into their designs.

The Green Infrastructure Strategy will complement the council's Swansea Central Area Regeneration Framework (SCARF), the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Green Infrastructure Achievements

- GI Stakeholder Engagement events have included workshops for private, public and 3rd sectors. Targeted sessions with key Council departments, existing partnerships and Council Members. **630+ face to face** conversations with the public.
- Developers already engaging in the pre-publication GI Strategy – to factor into future plans, and using the ‘Green Space Factor Tool’.
- Work on publishing the ‘Swansea Central Area Green Infrastructure Strategy’ is moving forward at a pace with a story featured in BBC news <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-50303472>
- GI being progressed as part of the Regeneration Investment Grant funding (e.g. green wall/roofs) – Morriston Post Office likely to be first example of adoption of green roof. A green wall is to be part of Arena car-park.
- Work has been undertaken with Pobl and Coastal social housing groups, driving wider staff engagement, embedding the principles of GI, offering support and providing links to a network of GI specialist advice. Coastal are developing a green roof at their city centre Head Office and Pobl have GI as key theme in their regeneration master planning for their housing stock.
- Business Improvement District seeing GI as means to enhance visitor and trader experience. Other proposals on the horizon, including installing biodiverse green roof bin shelters.
- The Welsh Government funded *Connecting Green Infrastructure – South West* project has also provided support for a number of Green Infrastructure projects including habitat management and access improvements at Local Nature Reserves and wildlife sites.

Green Infrastructure stakeholders / partners involved – Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Swansea Council, Green Infrastructure Strategy Project Group, Green Infrastructure Consultancy.

Urban Tree Planting

There has been a surge in tree planting schemes across Swansea organised by various organisations and communities. Whilst this is welcomed, the Working with Nature Task Group is keen to ensure that appropriate trees are planted in appropriate locations. The newly established Swansea Tree Forum is playing a key role in this and

facilitating collaboration between community groups, voluntary sector organisations and public bodies.

The first phase of identifying suitable sites for tree planting on Swansea Council land has been carried out and Glastir funding has been secured for four sites to be planted.

Almost 150 trees have been planted alongside streets in Swansea's Penlan area and 250 will follow next year. The new trees will soften the look of the area and will greatly benefit the local biodiversity. The semi-mature trees represent a wide variety of native and ornamental species. They have been chosen to be suitable for the residential area where they will stand. Local residents can enjoy the new additions for generations to come.



Swansea Council, Swansea Tree Forum and The Woodland Trust are working together on a plan to boost the city's biodiversity.

Young people helped to replant trees in a Swansea community after a spate of vandalism resulted in newly planted trees being ripped up. It sends out a positive message to other young people in the city that they can contribute to a greener, improved community environment.



Steps have been taken to tackle Ash trees affected by Ash Dieback. The fungal disease - which was first detected in the UK in 2012. The disease prevents Ash trees absorbing water so they become brittle. This means larger mature trees could collapse without warning and we need to ensure this does not happen. By us all acting now, we will reduce the risk that diseased trees will fall on people, property, power lines and roads. So far, around 3,000 Ash trees have been surveyed on public land many of which show varying signs of Ash Dieback.

Swansea Tree Forum and Swansea Environmental Forum held discussions and a consultation workshop with The Orchard Project, a London-based national charity, about expanding their work into Swansea. Funding has now been secured and two p/t project officers will be based in The Environment Centre from spring 2020.

Urban Tree Planting stakeholders/ partners involved- Swansea Council, Natural Resources Wales, SBUHB, Coed Cymru, Swansea Tree Forum, Woodland Trust, Swansea Environmental Forum.

Green Spaces

High-quality parks and green spaces are important to our communities, our health and wellbeing, nature and the economy. We want to encourage everyone to explore their local areas and make the most of what we have on our doorstep.

- The Councils Nature Conservation Team with funding from NRW delivered a project (Our Nature, Our Future”) which encouraged 20 local primary schools to connect with and make better use of their local wildlife sites and enabled plans to be prepared for each school to improve their grounds for biodiversity.

The Swansea Community Green Spaces Project, a partnership initiative managed by Swansea Environmental Forum, supports citizens and communities to have a greater involvement in the management and use of local green spaces. Over the past year, the project has supported many new and existing initiatives on sites across the city and county.

One key achievement was the establishment of a community growing project in Clydach, sited between the community centre and doctor’s surgery, which has become an award-winning community hub providing social and mental health benefits to vulnerable people and supplying provisions to the local food bank.

The Swansea Community Green Spaces Project has also contributed to and supported local tree planting initiatives and worked closely with the Swansea Tree Forum and the Swansea Community Growing Network to encourage collaboration and networking.

Green Spaces stakeholders/ partners involved- Swansea Environmental Forum, Swansea Council (Nature Conservation Team), Natural Resources Wales, Swansea Community Green Spaces Project, The Environment Centre, Swansea Community Growing Network, Swansea Council for Voluntary Service.

Ecosystem Services / Nature Recovery

Less progress was made in these particular aspects of the WWN action plan during 2019/20 as the focus and energy was directed to other areas – though it is also recognised that the work undertaken with green infrastructure, urban tree planting and green spaces all contribute to better understanding and use of ecosystem services and can make significant influence on nature recovery.

There will be a greater focus on this section of the action plan in the coming year as Swansea Council is recruiting a biodiversity officer who will support the Swansea Local Nature Partnership to develop a Local Nature Recovery Plan and WWN partners will explore ways to support and promote pollinator projects.

Nature Recovery stakeholders/ partners involved- Swansea Local Nature Partnership, Swansea Council, Natural Resources Wales, Swansea University

Carbon Reduction

Swansea Council declared a 'Climate Emergency' in July 2019 and has taken a number of steps in response to this, including drafting a Climate Change Charter to outline its commitment and encourage partners to sign-up; developing an action plan to address climate-related issues across all its functions and services; and develop a programme of stakeholder engagement, with support from Swansea Environmental Forum.

Swansea Environmental Forum also agreed that its focus will be on supporting partners and communities to take action on climate and nature recovery. Discussions are ongoing between Swansea Council, Swansea Environmental Forum, VocalEyes and other partners about how best to engage communities and stakeholders in the climate agenda.

Extensive discussions have taken place between the One Planet Centre, SEF, Swansea Council and other partners about approaches to measuring the impact of actions to tackle the climate and nature emergencies. A pilot scheme with the Swansea RDP has been undertaken to reshape how the funding programme supports social enterprises, the countryside and communities in rural areas using 'One Planet' principles.

The WWW Task Group have also been liaising with PSB working groups in west Wales about the work they are doing related to climate risk management and adaptation.

Low Carbon Swansea Bay (LCSB) continues to be a key network for encouraging and supporting organisations across the region to reduce their energy use and carbon footprint through knowledge sharing and collaboration.

In July 2019, LCSB members came together to share information and discuss the topic of *Greener Homes* with presentations from the Down to Earth Project (who hosted the event at their amazing Bryn Gwyn site), Coastal Housing, Swansea Council, Cardiff University, Pobl and Sero homes. This was followed up in November with a site visit to the Active Homes development in Neath. Further site visit to Swansea Council's retrofit project in Craig Cefn Parc was arranged for March 2020 but had to be postponed due to the coronavirus crisis.

In September 2019, LCSB collaborated with 4theRegion and the Flexis programme to put on a regional event focused on *Renewable Energy* which included several project updates related to renewables, energy, carbon reduction and climate change, followed by table discussions on the step changes needed for greater use of renewables and carbon reduction.

The Swansea Bay EV Group became more active again in 2019 with well attended and lively meetings in May (hosted at Swansea Guildhall), July (Riversimple, Llandrindod Wells), October (Craig-y-Nos Country Park) and January 2020 (DVLA). The group changed its name to Swansea Bay ULEV (Ultra Low Emission Vehicles) Task Group to reflect its wider scope beyond just electric vehicles. The Swansea Bay

Sustainable Travel Planning Group also met on several occasions- bringing together partners to share information, ideas and encouragement towards more sustainable travel practices for staff, students, clients and customers.

LCSB held an event on *Travel and Transport* in January which featured a presentation from Tom Porter of Public Health Wales on the Healthy Travel Charter model developed for Cardiff. LCSB and partners are looking to work with PHW on a similar approach in Swansea and/or the south-west region. Transport and travel has also been proposed as a key focus in 2020 for Swansea Environmental Forum and its partners as part of their climate action programme.

Carbon Reduction- Stakeholders / partners involved- Swansea Environmental Forum, Swansea Council, Low Carbon Swansea Bay network.

Knowledge and Understanding

The WWN Task Group recognises the importance of increasing awareness and understanding of environmental challenges such as the decline in biodiversity and climate change, and sharing information about the opportunities and resources available to organisations, communities and individuals to help them address these issues, such as access to expertise, training, toolkits and funding sources that can support practical action.

In 2019, Swansea Environmental Forum and The Environment Centre collaborated to organise a programme of events, with funding from Natural Resources Wales and support from many WWN partners. These included a series of well attended evening public talks and discussions on several issues linked to the WWN agenda:

- *One Planet Swansea* approach in May with David Thorpe, One Planet Centre.
- *Active Travel and Climate Change* in June organised with Wheelrights cycle campaigning group and featuring Lee Waters AM.
- *Zero Waste Swansea* featuring updates from Swansea Council's Head of Waste management and several community recycling, repair and waste projects.
- *Regenerating Our City for Wellbeing and Wildlife* as part of the SEF AGM in November, with an update from Swansea Council and Natural Resource Wales officers on the new Green Infrastructure Strategy for Swansea Central.

The largest event was a day-long conference in May 2019 involving over 60 representatives from a wide range of partner organisations and individuals. The *SMART NATURE: Working with Nature in Swansea* conference focused on themes from the WWN Action Plan and included keynote presentations from Paul Allen of Zero Carbon Britain initiative and the Green Infrastructure Consultancy team. There were facilitated workshop discussions on key issues and on the other Swansea Wellbeing objectives. Feedback from the event was very positive and a large number of ideas were collected from the workshop sessions.

A second programme of evening public talks started in February 2020 with a session on *Fairtrade and the Climate Emergency* organised in collaboration with Swansea Fairtrade Forum to launch Fairtrade Fortnight and featuring a presentation by the CEO of Traidcraft. Further events were postponed due to the pandemic.

In early 2020, Swansea Environmental Forum also collaborated with VocalEyes and others to initiate a project to design a new easy-to-use online resource which will promote proven, adaptable and replicable solutions for climate action and nature recovery. This will initially involve contracting researchers to gather information on best practice projects and policies, and supporting resources, and compiling as project templates. A further phase of the initiative will involve engaging communities, and other beneficiaries through community organisers and networks to ensure use and development of the resource.

Knowledge and Understanding – Stakeholders / partners involved – Swansea Environmental Forum, The Environment Centre, Swansea Council, Swansea University, Low Carbon Swansea Bay network, VocalEyes, Natural Resources Wales.

Challenges/ Barriers

- Insufficient communication from the PSB to the Working with Nature group.

Future Work

The Working with Nature Task Group will review the outputs from the Smart Nature conference, share progress on the action plan and agree priorities for 2020/21, with a particular focus on responding to the Covid19 crisis.

Key actions and priorities for the coming year will include:

- Continue Green Infrastructure strategy work- consultation and training. A Green Infrastructure skills and knowledge development event is planned for later this year.
- Widespread community engagement has already taken place and included pop-up sessions in the city centre and activity on social media but we need to continue this work and any future feedback gathered can be used to make sure this is a useful tool for enhancing the green infrastructure we will see in future development.
- Continue with Ecosystem services mapping
- Review approaches to urban tree planting.
- Support Swansea Council to develop a Green Fairness Policy, which could be replicated by partner organisations.
- Ensure ongoing work takes stock of Area Statement for South West Wales.
- Develop the Working with Nature action plan to take account of the Climate and Nature Emergency declarations and the opportunities for a ‘green recovery’ from the Covid19 crisis, including addressing travel and transport issues as a key focus for 2020/21.

Strong Communities



To build strong communities with a sense of pride and belonging.

Lead – This work is coordinated by the Strong Communities Steering Group and is led by Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

Partners/ Stakeholders Involved

Coastal	Pobl	SCVS	Family Housing
Public Health Wales	Clase 4 All	Council-Local Area Co-ordination	Regeneration Swansea Council
Swansea Learning Partnership	Poverty Partnership Forum	Regional Partnership Boards (RPB);	Partner agency Procurement staff
GP Cluster Networks	housing and social landlords	West Glamorgan Social Value Forum	Beyond Bricks and Mortar
South Wales Police	Swansea City of Sanctuary and others supporting refugees and asylum seekers (Eyst and others)	Swansea Council, Community Cohesion Steering Group (which sits under Safer Swansea Partnership);	City of Culture Steering Group Swansea
Menter Iaith Abertawe	Merched Y Wawr	Co Production Network	Human Rights City group
Womens Aid /multi agency domestic violence practitioners	Regional Black Minority Ethnic Network	Community Cohesion group	

Overview of work within Strong Communities

SCVS originally led the Strong Communities objective. Since the new governance arrangements, this objective has now been allocated to Mid & West Wales Fire and

Rescue. Since this new arrangement has been in place, a full review of the intended action plan has been in progress. The review has included identifying actions that are now complete, those that are ongoing and new actions that need to be included going forward.

A number of meetings have taken place between the previous and new lead and a new strategic stakeholder group has been identified. This group has been developed to ensure that it includes partners who are able to reflect the work of the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and the Transformation programme as there were many close links and common goals, which have links to a number of actions within the workstream.

This group membership enables there to be intelligence sharing and joint working across other PSB objectives and between other agencies and departments. All future meetings will be aligned to the RPB meetings.

Challenges/ Barriers

- Bringing all stakeholders together to ensure appropriate representation.
- Ensuring success from different partnerships is captured effectively
- Capacity of partners workload

Partners/ Stakeholders involved- Key partnerships are Swansea Poverty Partnership, Regeneration Swansea, Swansea Community Safety Partnership, Safer Swansea Partnership board and Regional Partnership Board. *This is not an exhaustive list there are other groups that sit under these looking at local issues and developing asset based solutions.

Achievements

There are now more Local Area Coordinators (LACs) working in communities across our city walking beside people of all ages, helping them to discover a good life, become confident and stronger, developing their own strengths and helping them to avoid the need for them to resort to health and social services. Local Area Coordinators (LACs) have a wide-ranging preventative brief that includes looking out for people who might be lonely and isolated and help them to connect with others so that they can live stronger, healthier and more independent and active lives. To find practical ways of doing things they want or need to do and develop personal and local networks so people feel part of and connected to their communities.

We are working towards a thriving economy in which households achieve at least the minimum income standard by developing a single public service approach. This promotes and encourages all businesses and agencies to pay the living wage via the Living Wage Pledge and exploring ways to include living wage requirements in procurement and grant giving – encouraging all PSB partners to build this into their own terms and conditions when distributing funding to others.

We are all committed to tackling poverty because it impacts on people, families and communities across Swansea. Tackling poverty is everybody's responsibility and we

work with a wide range of organisations to make a positive difference as we recognise we can't do this alone. Initiatives include Swansea Working, this helps people access employment opportunities and helps overcome barriers related to housing, money and skills. Swansea's Lifelong Learning Service provides accessible learning opportunities supporting people to improve skills and gain accreditation as well as reducing social isolation. A wide range of courses are available from essential skills such as numeracy, literacy and digital, through to guitar, languages and photography. The council's Tackling Poverty Strategy also sees the council and partner organisations support a range of initiatives to tackle issues such as holiday hunger, high interest lending, entitlements, tenancies, wellbeing and life chances.

Following an invitation to share what mattered to them, people living in the Mount Pleasant area responded that it would be nice to have somewhere to meet neighbours, make new friends and become involved in different activities. Now a group of volunteers has a base that has been named the Hub on the Hill and it is becoming a focal point of activity for the local community.

Swansea-based housing association Coastal provides the accommodation, covering rent and utilities cost and Swansea Council's Local Area Coordinator helps to introduce people but it is the residents that have driven the project forward and turned the hub into the vibrant and welcoming place that it is today. Residents use and organise the space as they want and the hub is fast becoming the focus point for the community.

Lots of different groups and social events now operate from the centre with activities that are attracting people of all ages. Since it opened in March 2018, the hub has hosted over 150 different activities, groups and events. It is also being used by other partners such as South Wales Police who stage Cuppa with Copper events there so residents can keep in touch and report any concerns.

Coastal said the idea of Hub on the Hill fitted exactly with its vision of providing homes and services that allowed its tenants to thrive and the communities it serves to prosper.

The Hub on the Hill has given Local People a bit of hope, they can now feel that they have a base, a connection to make friends and get involved in what is happening within their community so they feel a sense of pride and belonging. The hub is also a great example of how Swansea Council's Local Area Coordination Scheme, part-funded by Coastal Housing supports people to build their version of a good life, stay strong and connected and feel and safer and more confident in their future.

We also aim to use the principles of an intercultural city to promote the diversity of cultures and languages within Swansea sharing and making the best use of resources we have. Community language provision is being audited across agencies so we can understand where the access points for language provision exist. We are seeking an agreement to share resources for the benefit of citizens and promote common language access points.

The Blaenymaes Men's Shed offers a meeting place for friendship to reduce loneliness and isolation among men from all backgrounds in the Penderry area, it plans group activities and projects to keep its members active and to benefit the wider community. It is a safe environment for those looking for a bit of company and/ or to learn new skills. The group has helped out people in the community with DIY projects and they are planning on giving the produce they grow to community food schemes.

It is one of a growing network of Men's Sheds across Swansea that are being supported by Swansea Council who are investing financial support to its development.

Cllr Alyson Pugh, Cabinet Member for Better Communities, said: "Men's Sheds have a very positive impact on health, well-being and in reducing social isolation by drawing on the wealth of skills and experience that exists within our communities, in recognition of the life-changing impact they can have I'm delighted Swansea Council is offering financial support towards their further development."

We also have the Safer Swansea Partnership who seeks to support the Public Service Board in meeting and delivering on the local strategic objectives and priorities. It provides leadership on the Safer Swansea strategy and liaison with the Police and Crime Commissioner on funding and strategy.

The membership of the group consists of key representatives from statutory partners and other organisations with an interest and influence in community safety issues, they are committed to working together, building on the success over the last few years and ensuring that Swansea continues to be a safe place to live, work and to visit. Such organisations include;

- Local Authority – key service area leads where appropriate
- South Wales Police
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
- 3rd Sector organisations i.e. Barod; Wallich; Women's Aid; Dafodol; Gorfal
- Registered Social Landlords
- Swansea University
- University of Wales Trinity St. David
- British Transport Police
- Welsh Ambulance Service
- Probation/ Youth Service
- Swansea Job Centre (DWP),
- BID
- Nominated Community representation
- Deputy Leader/Ward Councillors

Partners in Swansea already have a well-established reputation for delivering successful initiatives and positive, productive working relationships that provide a sound platform for further success in achieving the Partnership's aims and objectives. We need to work together more efficiently and effectively, to use all of the resources

available to us in our communities, and to build positive, strong and resilient communities where the most vulnerable are supported and protected.

The Safer Swansea Partnership recognised there were issues surrounding our High Street and tasked a Critical Incident Task & Finish Group to produce an action plan to deal with issues relating to sex work, substance misuse, criminal activity and Anti-Social Behaviour and how to improve the living and working environment. The issues affecting the High Street and surrounding area are not uncommon to those that affect many of our communities.

To address concerns and issues identified through a joint-working scoping meeting the workstreams identified were summarised in some key areas.

- Criminology and Anti-Social Behaviour (led by South Wales Police)
- Substance misuse, drug dealing and County Lines activity (led by Barod)
- Street sex working and exploitation of vulnerable people (led by Womens Aid)
- Public Realm (led by Council)

They will meet and develop specific actions to manage risks, identify gaps in service provision and improve wellbeing. The important thing was how we tackle the issue itself by working together and it is a step towards achieving the goal.

Community engagement events have been held at residential areas surrounding the High Street this was a Multi-agency partnership approach where door knocking and conversations with residents took place.

A Stakeholder / partners, residents and business engagement event took place last July this was an opportunity to share what work is already going on in the High Street and seek views from residents/businesses on how to improve environment and wellbeing. The response was positive and view was the events were successful, more will be planned in the future.

There is a clear Governance of the Critical Incident Group to the Safer Swansea Partnership and then to Public Service Board. All communications are channelled through the Safer Swansea Partnership (all partners are signed up with South Wales Police leading) and all work is branded Safer Swansea Partnership.

Our Ways of Working



Involvement

Due to the changes made when reviewing the Governance, the Partnership Forum has now opened up wider diversity of representation i.e. charities, community groups and public input. The Partnership Forum that we held in October 2019 had over 60+ individuals attend with a number of guest speakers one of which was from the Future Generations Office. This was a real opportunity to involve everyone in work going forward. These forums will take place on a 6 monthly basis. We also have the PSB Joint Committee Meetings held in public and we encourage public question time.



Collaboration

This year Swansea and Neath Port Talbot PSB's have collaborated on improving the early years support for families with children from conception to age 7. To date the Pathfinder programme has mapped all the relevant services which includes, health, family support, learning and play and have consulted with the professionals about potential opportunities to integrate some aspects of the pathway so that families can move seamlessly through services that meet their needs.

The next stage of the process is to consult with families and gain a greater insight into what's important to them and to test new ways of working locally. Successful pilot schemes will inform future service planning and will be scaled up across Neath Port Talbot and Swansea.

A number of activities have been carried out jointly with the Public Services Boards of Neath Port Talbot and Swansea.

These included:



Joint training for report authors in Digital Story Telling approaches; as a way of communicating information beyond the traditional format. Both PSBs have benefited from the digital storytelling training/ plain English training and are putting the knowledge into practice when writing reports.

Before the outbreak of COVID-19, a Joint Logic Model/ Theory of Change training session was organised for representatives from each of the Objective working groups from both Neath Port Talbot and Swansea PSBs to attend. This will provide the

partners with a consistent method of recording and assessing the impact of their workstreams. Unfortunately, this has been put on hold until we are in a position to organise large gatherings.

Meetings between the PSB Co-ordinators and between the Lead Officers have also identified some common themes that will be explored in the next twelve months:

- adopting a consistent approach to asset mapping;
- information sharing;
- data analysis;
- evaluation;
- developing new methods of engagement such as using the training received on digital stories; seeking ways to update the websites and promoting the good work of the PSBs
- workforce development (making every contact count).

Another really good example of a project designed with collaboration in mind is the work undertaken on the development of the draft City Centre Green Infrastructure strategy in Swansea Central Area. This is a collaborative project between the Council and Natural Resources Wales, which focuses on using Green Infrastructure to improve environmental, economic, social and cultural well-being of residents and visitors.



Here is a photo montage of some of the engagement work we did for the Regenerating Our City for Wellbeing and Wildlife, which is one of the objective steps. The engagement work included 630+ face-to-face conversations with members of the public around the Swansea Central Area asking the question 'What does nature in the city mean to you?' There were sessions with the 4 catchment primary schools,

local interest and residents group with numerous workshops and sessions with a wide range of stakeholders including PSB members.



Integration

It has been agreed that more regular meetings between co-ordinators and between lead officers will be scheduled in 2020-21. This has already begun with the Strategic Leads for each Objective meeting in person (or via Skype) before each of the PSB Joint Committee Meetings so progress is maintained and is not being lost between each month. It has also been agreed that partners should be encouraged to

reflect the PSB's local Well-being Objectives in corporate well-being plans and across other partnership structures.

Swansea and Neath Port Talbot PSB Boards will meet at least twice in the next twelve months to monitor progress. Accountability for delivering the next phase of actions has been set out in an action plan agreed by both boards.

This experience has encouraged both Boards to reflect on future joint working opportunities projects; in particular, Suicide and Self Harm Prevention has been identified as areas that would benefit from PSB attention across the region in 2020/21.

In order to best consider how our local Well-being Objectives impact upon the local Well-being Objectives of neighbouring PSBs and our partner organisations, most of whom work regionally. We have participated in an increasing volume of regional work, much of which has been at a planning and co-ordination level. Some of this valuable activity has been made possible by resource provided by Welsh Government via a regional funding grant.



Long term

Each of the short term steps implemented by PSB partners over the past year contributes to the achievement of our 2040 vision. Our local well-being objectives have a strong future focus and set the context for current decision making. Saplings that have been planted collaboratively by PSB partners today will be enjoyed and support our future generations as trees in their maturity.



Prevention

Early intervention and the value of a cross agency approach is demonstrated by the Jig-so project's ability to identify and help with issues to prevent further problems in the future. (Issues such as worklessness and domestic violence during pregnancy before a child comes into the world, such preventative work reduces Adverse Childhood Experiences and increases the life chances of all members of the young families participating in the programme. Evaluations demonstrated better outcomes for the young parents and a large proportion who were referred to the project by the local authority were closed to social services involvement or removed from the social service's 'at risk' register. Furthermore, Jig-So service showed improved health outcomes for parents and children. Parents also reported feeling more confident in their parental role.

A focus on prevention and early intervention characterises all work undertaken by the Public Services Board in Swansea. Joint Committee members have each embraced this approach in their organisation work and value the collaborative opportunities offered by the PSB to take forward new approaches.

Partnership working at its best during Covid-19

PSB Partners Response to COVID-19

It has never been more important for us to pull together, connect and understand the resources we have here in Swansea. All PSB members have shown willingness to work together collectively to come out of this situation stronger, more resilient and better connected.

Maintaining effective communication and relationships has been vital. It has been important to use our relationships and networks we have built up over the past years and draw on one another's knowledge and experience. It has been crucial for all our different organisations to come together to help and support one another.

PSB members/stakeholders together are stronger and we must not lose sight of how much we can achieve when we work together and support one another. The people of Swansea have never needed our support as much as they do now.

Innovation often springs from a reaction to crisis and chaos. Staff generating new ideas to help us win this battle. Our working lives have been revolutionised. Regular conference calls with the local health board and regional partners have removed the need to travel and working remotely is the new normal for many of us. The current crisis and the need for social distancing and self-isolation has required these changes and suspect this will influence our ways of working in the longer term.

Here are just some examples of what partners have done during Covid-19;



- All sites closed (visitor centres, cafes, car parks, play areas and toilets).
- Promoting information following Public Health Wales guidance on social distancing / remaining in close contact with Public Health Wales and will be reviewing procedures daily in order to keep staff, contractors, customers and partners safe.
- Staff working from home, only key workers carrying out essential work.
- Continuing consultation on permit applications, unable to accept paper applications.
- Continuing with planned harvesting to assist supply of wood products.
- Information shared in relation to accessing land and Rights of Way (advising to visit the relevant National Park Authority or local authority websites).
- Signage put on sites to inform members of the public about the closures.
- Working with operators to find the best solutions to safeguarding the environment and helping businesses adapt in these challenging circumstances.
- Providing online learning resources and activities to do while the schools are closed.

- A decision to relax existing rules for the spreading of waste milk on agricultural land.
- Helping to sustain essential services in the health, food and energy sectors.
- Communications via social media (Facebook & Twitter accounts).
- Working with partners to write guidance for managers of natural and outdoor cultural sites. This will help with preparations to open and operate sites as safely as possible when Welsh Government advises it is safe to do so.



Gwasanaeth Tân Ac Achub
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Service

- Latest links to access information from various sources.
- Critical Incident Team has been set up and meeting daily.
- Safety Officers are not carrying out routine visits but will follow up complaints and other urgent life safety audits.
- Officers will have PPE for urgent visits.
- Working at full capacity across frontline operation response.
- Scaling back on some proactive work.
- General information/advice.



- Regular updated useful links, statements and information (Links to Public Health Wales on social distancing and shielding, Welsh Government and Health Board).
- Updates on the outpatient clinics suspended and those still running e.g. paediatrics, oncology.
- All general hospital visiting stopped.
- Reduced ante-natal care.
- Children's emergency unit created in new location.
- Rapid Diagnostic Centre suspended.
- Fake news alert- Facts about field hospitals and the preparation for Covid-19 across all hospitals.
- Information on visiting GP out of hours, scams, Amazon wish list donations, shielding letters.
- Essential travel guidelines.
- Information on testing.



- Prioritised critical services like refuse, social services, home care and emergency home repairs in the face of huge pressures.
- Re-training and re-directing staff into the contact centre to support the vulnerable. A new call centre providing practical support for the most vulnerable, including those being asked to self-isolate for up to 12 weeks. Staff switching from their usual roles to provide support to local communities and the vulnerable.
- Converting leisure centres into temporary hospitals.
- Running food banks and providing meals for those in need. Arranging food deliveries to the vulnerable at home and getting free school meals across the city when schools are not operating.
- Creating a community taskforce to help meet the needs of those who cannot leave home.
- Operating childcare hubs at schools to provide childcare for key workers who are keeping the NHS and other vital services going and establishing a distribution network with our partners to ensure the vulnerable and those living in poverty are supported.
- Created a new hashtag across all comms platforms #HereForSwansea, summing up their approach perfectly. Keeping connections alive and providing new ways for us to come together, share and collaborate.
- Stopped building council houses and now building hospitals.
- Asked for volunteers in the community to help during spare time.
- Sent out letter through PSB Members regarding necessary changes we are making to social care provision across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot to help cope with the Coronavirus crisis.
- Establishing a distribution network with our partners to ensure the vulnerable and those living in poverty are supported.
- Specific support for the homeless. Homeless people, rough sleepers and those at risk of becoming homeless in Swansea are being supported more than ever during the coronavirus outbreak.
- People are being urged to sign-up and join an army of volunteers who are making all the difference for those affected by Coronavirus- working with Swansea Council for Volunteering Service (SCVS) who is co-ordinating the volunteering recruitment campaign locally. An army of more than 1,600 community volunteers are now helping vulnerable and isolated people across Swansea. The network has been put together by Local Area Coordinators in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

- The Chief Medical Officer for Wales has written to several thousand people and their carers in Swansea telling them to take extra shielding measures to protect their health, including self-isolating for at least three months.
- Worked with Swansea Bay University Health Board to put in place support for these individuals, so that if they don't have friends or family, or other support networks, to help them to get food or other essentials as a result, the Council and its partners will help.
- **Domestic Abuse services-** Swansea Council's Domestic Abuse Hub and IDVA Project continue to operate, providing safety advice and emotional support to those currently at risk.
- Lots of information on support networks on the council website at www.swansea.gov.uk/coronavirushelp.
- Working with contractors to transform a former factory and film studios into a hospital to help manage the expected upsurge in Coronavirus cases.
- The Council and its partners in the British Red Cross have launched an appeal to local businesses for folding camp beds, bedding and other routine supplies than are sometimes needed in an emergency.
- **New community podcast-** Swansea's cultural community has a new mouthpiece - a podcast. The Come Together Cast, being overseen by Swansea Council and the Swansea Music Hub. It aims to highlight innovative work across the city, share ideas for maintaining wellbeing and entertain residents during the ongoing isolation period.
- Increased social care beds to help ease pressure on NHS. Big thanks to Housing Justice Cymru, the team who run Swansea Night Shelter. They have loaned 20 beds and mattresses to the council in case they are needed to create a rest centre in a non-coronavirus emergency, such as a major fire or evacuation.
- Critical health services benefiting from schools' PPE production - social care services and the NHS are benefiting from the efforts of city comprehensive schools who've produced 20,000 items of PPE equipment during the lockdown.
- Flying Start services still here for children - Help, advice and support for families in the Flying Start programme is continuing in Swansea despite the coronavirus lockdown. Although all groups and non-essential visits have stopped during lockdown the teams are delivering services in alternative ways.
- Info-nation (young people's service) is running a #StayConnected campaign for young people during the Coronavirus pandemic.
- Cultural Services team has created a YouTube playlist of short films to keep individuals entertained and informed. They include videos put together by the council itself, partners and others using social media to positive effect.
- Test Trace Protect project- led by health colleagues, this national strategy will be based on health board footprints and build on our excellent regional collaboration with the Swansea Bay University Health Board and Neath and Port Talbot Council. The project will be headed by our Environmental Health Team and clinical leads from the NHS.



South Wales Police

- Strapline : Stay at home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives.
- Message from Chief Constable Matt Jukes to the communities of South Wales <https://www.south-wales.police.uk/en/newsroom/coronavirus-a-message-from-chief-constable-matt-juke-to-the-communities-of-south-wales/>
- Advice on avoiding scams.
- Very regularly updated information re: social distancing, domestic abuse, scams, high level of public interaction. Providing useful links to other partners' information.
- Continue to be visible in our local communities, maintaining safe distances when we engage with residents in line with Government advice on social distancing.
- Take appropriate enforcement action if necessary to any breaches.



- Shared latest advice and guidance from Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, South Wales Police and local authority partners.
- Request for general public to submit questions on the possible effects of Covid-19 on Policing in South Wales, for Commissioner to put to Chief Constable at Commissioners Strategic Board - Transcript of answers to be published on website.
- Provide consistent messages across the communities of South Wales with a clear, simple summary of the rules available in a leaflet and on the South Wales Police website.
- Video message to communities of South Wales re: social distancing <http://www.southwalescommissioner.org.uk/en/news/a-message-to-the-communities-of-south-wales-from-police-crime-commissioner-rt-hon-alun-michael/>
- Information and advice re: domestic abuse, protecting children, victim support, scams- sharing contact information links, useful telephone numbers, ways to contact the Commissioner.

- No longer able to undertake face to face engagement activities such as community walkabouts or community events.
- Asking Children & young people to create Covid-19 messages that are important to them.

From the words of the Police and Crime Commissioner- “We achieve more together than we achieve alone and I’m encouraged by the collective effort that is apparent across our communities, with the public, the police and our partners across South Wales all going above and beyond to help tackle this virus and protect our communities.”



- New groups springing up across the whole of Swansea, helping those who are socially isolated, organizing food deliveries and prescriptions; and meeting the unmet needs of those who really need help right now.
- Mapping all of the different services available across the whole of Swansea on a local level, helping to join up to existing support, make sure the tools in place to protect you, and make sure that the fantastic network is best used.
- Split their team into 5 geographical areas, to have a key person to contact, and they can link up with other things that are happening locally -using the GP 'Cluster' boundaries to help coordinate this work (see map) with key contacts and a team for each area.
- Have a 'Coronavirus mailing list' - this is for updates for more formal third sector groups.
- Guidance for food banks/Food Suppliers.
- Cancelled all face to face training until 31st July 2020 (to be reviewed as the situation progresses) but will be using their ebulletin distribution list (alongside their new coronavirus mailing list) to make sure people have the information they need at this challenging time.
- Provided latest news links.



- Clear header on website – Covid-19 How they are responding.
- Limiting caretaking duties to waste management and repairs and maintenance to essential work only.

- Continuing with gas servicing for as long as possible.
- Supporting people facing financial hardship.
- Limiting new lettings to those currently in progress.
- Processing rent payments online and via telephone.
- General info/advice covering scams, mental health, businesses, asylum seekers/refugees, local firms delivering food, Women's Aid.
- Sharing of information.



- Links to latest advice from Public Health Wales and other partners.
- Changes to the way appointments are held.
- All group work and group work programmes have stopped.

Our Next Steps

Swansea PSB's strengths lie within the expertise, experience and enthusiasm of its partners, from the frontline staff working to deliver the Local Well-being Objectives to the leadership representatives who work together to strategically improve Swansea's well-being.

Austerity and continued uncertainty will continue to challenge our organisations moving forward. However, significant opportunities have been identified to build our capacity by working together and increasingly share assets and resources. In particular, the benefits of increased regional working, improved communications that enables the greater involvement of wider stakeholders and clearer relationships with other partnerships such as West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board will be a focus for the future.

How you can get involved?

The work undertaken by Swansea Public Services Board is published online at www.swanseapsb/swansea.gov.uk.

Our Joint Committee Meetings are held in public and questions from the public are invited via a standing agenda item Public Question Time.

Every 6 months a Partnership Forum meeting is held and we welcome everyone along to contribute.

You can also contact our Public Services Board Co-ordinator directly by email at Swansea.psb@swansea.gov.uk or telephone 07989 138917.

We welcome your involvement, ideas and suggestions in all areas of our work so that we could consider for our future work.

Agenda Item 7



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Scrutiny Performance Panel Progress Report

Purpose	The Committee is responsible for managing the overall work of scrutiny and its effectiveness. Performance Panel conveners will regularly provide a progress report, updating the Committee on headlines from their Panel's work and impact.
Content	This report focuses on the following Performance Panel: a) Education
Councillors are being asked to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure awareness and understanding of the work of the Panel• Consider its effectiveness and impact• Consider any issues arising and action required
Lead Councillor(s)	Councillor Lyndon Jones (convener, Education Performance Panel)
Lead Officer & Report Author	Michelle Roberts Tel: 01792 637256 E-mail: scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland

1. Introduction

- 1.1 There are six Performance Panels which have been established by the Committee. Whilst the work of Inquiry Panels leads to the production of a final report with conclusions and recommendations for Cabinet based on evidence gathered on a specific issue, the work of Performance Panels represent regular monitoring of, and challenge to, particular services / service areas.
- 1.2 Performance Panels are expected to have on-going correspondence with relevant cabinet / lead members in order to share views and recommendations, arising from monitoring activities, about the performance of services and service delivery.

1.3 The Committee is responsible for managing the overall work of scrutiny and its effectiveness. Performance Panels Conveners will therefore provide a regular progress report to the Committee to enable:

- a discussion on the work of each Panel, achievements, effectiveness and impact
- the Committee to consider any issues arising from Panel activities which may have an impact on the overall scrutiny work programme
- awareness amongst the Committee as well as visibility across the council and public.

1.4 This report is about the following Performance Panel:

a) Education – this updates on work carried out since the last update was provided in March 2020.

To focus the discussion a short written report has been provided by the convener of each Panel, and are **attached**. This includes a summary of Panel activities, correspondence between the Panel and relevant Cabinet Members, recommendations and impact.

1.5 The Education Performance Panel has a current membership of 13 as follows:

Labour Councillors: 3

Cyril Anderson	Beverley Hopkins
Mike Durke	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 3

Mike Day	Susan Jones
Lynda James	

Conservative Councillors: 5

Steve Gallagher	Myles Langstone
David Helliwell	Linda Tyler-Lloyd
Lyndon Jones (CONVENER)	

Statutory Cooptees: 2

David Anderson-Thomas	Parent Governor Representative
Alexander Roberts	Parent Governor Representative

2. Legal Implications

2.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Education Scrutiny Performance Panel – SPC Update

Education Scrutiny Performance Panel – SPC Update

1. Remit of the Panel

The overarching purpose of the Panel is to provide ongoing challenge to schools performance to ensure that *pupils in Swansea are receiving high quality education and the authority is meeting its objectives in relation to improving school standards and pupil attainment.*

2. Key Activities

The Panel is currently meeting on a monthly basis and the work completed since March 2020 includes:

- a) On the 12 March 2020, the Panel met with Pentrehafod Secondary School to look at how they work with pupils at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).
- b) On the 15 July, the Panel looked at the impacts of COVID on Education in Swansea.
- c) On the 22 October, the Panel discussed the return of pupils to Swansea schools and the Covid recovery plan for Education. The Panel also agreed their work programme for the remaining meetings of the 2020/21 council year.
- d) On the 19 November, the Panel met with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors for Waun Wen Primary School to discuss the wellbeing of pupils, as part of their watching brief on this issue. The Panel also looked at Elective Home Education, an issue highlighted for scrutiny by the Scrutiny Work Planning Conference.
- e) Over this period, the Panel has also kept up to date with individual school Estyn Inspections published and any advisory/practice documents.

3. Achievements / Impact

We have sent four letters to the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning and Skills since March 2020, which gave our views, raised concerns and made recommendations. Some of these include, for example:

Elective Home Education:

The Panel received an update on Elective Home Education, as referred by the Scrutiny Programme Committee in November. Concern had been expressed about the rising numbers of parents choosing to de-register their children from school since the COVID situation and the safeguarding implications. The Cabinet Member, Director of Education and Head of Service for the matter attended the Panel and outlined the current situation, our legal requirements and how we work with home educators and our partners to ensure children are safeguarded and are receiving a suitable education. The Panel were reassured by the activity that is taking place but did agree that a register of Home Educated pupils was needed, this was being considered by the Welsh Government. New statutory guidance from Welsh Government was consulted upon in October 2019 but is currently on hold as to COVID 19 responses took priority. We heard that Swansea is prepared to take on the requirements of the statutory guidance if implemented.

COVID updates relating to Education in the July and October meetings:

- The Panel heard that in early September the priority was to get as many pupils back to school as possible. They were told that the Welsh Government had given schools a period of grace until the 14 September when it was expected that all schools would be operational. The Panel were pleased to hear this was achieved successfully in Swansea. The Panel recognised this was down to the hard work of Headteacher's and school staff.
- We are pleased that Swansea is making provision for free school meals during the holiday periods between now and Easter 2021 and that we are still providing payments and will continue to do so, either directly to bank accounts or food parcels, during these holidays.
- We were reassured to hear that the Council has focused on the wellbeing of school staff and in particular school leaders. We heard school governors have been encouraged to ask

questions of their Headteacher's in particular, to ensure that their wellbeing is being considered at this difficult time.

- We heard that since the 14 September we have seen a good, solid attendance in our schools across Swansea. Although, in the early part of September, there has been as many as 88 requests from parents asking to electively home educate their children. However, since September, there has been a good rate of attendance across schools and this has remained stable.
- We heard there has been an increase in the use of our digital platforms including Swansea Virtual School and the HWB platform, which is positive. We were told that in the summer months a lot of kit was issued, the Council adopted a very flexible approach to ensure that any digitally excluded pupil could still have that kit and the connectivity. In the main, we are confident pupils have what they need. We are reassured to hear that this will continue to be monitored carefully and that schools are encouraged to communicate if they need help.
- The Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills, Cllr Jennifer Raynor, told us that the Education Department is working fantastically well as a team and that she is very pleased with the way the Department is running and that she is more than happy with where we are currently. We were reassured to hear her comments and are supportive of them. We are impressed with how both schools and the Education Department as a whole has responded to this national health crisis. We wrote to the Director of Education asking her to share our thoughts and to give our thanks to council staff, schools and governing bodies.
- We did express our concern about what will happen during examination time. We were informed that there has been an independent review of examinations in 2020, which will be reporting shortly. In addition, we were expecting to hear from the Welsh Government on what will happen in 2021.

Action Recommended / questions asked of Cabinet Member:

- Confirmation about the financial position of schools that operated as hubs during lockdown.

4. Education Scrutiny Performance Panel - Future Work Programme 2020/21

Date	Items to be discussed
17 Dec 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Swansea Skills Partnership 2. Update – Education and Schools recovery from Covid 3. Annual Audit of Schools (<i>for information item</i>)
21 Jan 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of pupil and school performance (<i>Annual item</i>) 2. Behaviour Strategy and how associated delegated spend to schools has been used (<i>Panel identified this item for scrutiny pre March</i>) 3. PDG summary of spend to support vulnerable pupils (<i>Annual item</i>)
Feb -date tbc	Annual Budget as it relates to Educations matters (<i>Annual item</i>)
25 Feb 2021	School 2 - Penyrheol Comprehensive School – Discuss school performance
18 Mar 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Additional Learning Needs Reform and implementation (<i>watching brief item</i>) 2. New Curriculum update including progress with implementation (<i>watching brief item</i>) 3. The New Estyn Regime and summary of outcomes of thematic reviews
22 Apr 2021	School 3 – Morriston Secondary School – Discuss school improvement following Estyn Monitoring
13 May 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education Other Than At Schools Update (EOTAS), including progress with new provision 2. Update 21st Century Schools Programme

Agenda Item 8



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Membership of Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups

Purpose:	The Scrutiny Programme Committee is responsible for appointing members and conveners to the various Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups that are established. This report advises of relevant matters that need to be considered.
Content:	This report is provided to facilitate any changes that need to be made.
Councillors are being asked to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• agree the membership of Panels and Working Groups reported, and any other changes necessary.
Lead Councillor:	Councillor Peter Black, Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee
Lead Officer & Report Author:	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland

1. Introduction

1.1 In accordance with Council report 18 October 2012, when current scrutiny arrangements were agreed, the Scrutiny Programme Committee is responsible for appointing members and conveners to the various Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups that are established.

2. Proposed Revision to Current Scrutiny Panel / Working Group Membership

2.1 None.

3. Performance Panel Conveners

- 3.1 In accordance with the Committee's wishes Performance Panel are confirming / appointing convener at the first meeting of the municipal year, and this was reported to the last Committee meeting. The only Panel yet to meet is the Natural Environment Performance Panel, which will be meeting on 14 December. The Panel will confirm its convener for the 2020/21 municipal year, and the outcome verbally reported to the Committee.

4. New Panels and Working Groups

- 4.1 Following agreement of a new work programme expressions of interest were sought from all non-executive councillors to lead and/or participate in the following Panels and Working Groups:

- Inquiry Panel - Procurement
(this Panel was placed on hold during the last year due to resources, but can now be re-convened. Further interest was invited to join previously agreed membership)
- Working Groups
 - Workforce
(last year's Programme had identified 'Staff Health & Well-being' and carries forward previously agreed membership, subject to members wishing to come off or others wishing to join)
 - Digital Inclusion
(carries forward previous membership when a Working Group initially met during 2017, and other expressions of interest are shown).
 - Bus Services
 - Healthy City

- 4.2 The interest from councillors is reported for Committee agreement (see **Appendix 1**).

5. Guiding Principles

- 5.1 When determining membership / conveners or agreeing any changes there are some key considerations for the Committee:
- It is necessary for more than one political group to be represented on each Panel / Working Group.
 - These bodies also need to be of a manageable size in terms of team working and effective questioning.

- To ensure that all political groups have opportunities and are engaged.
- Good scrutiny practice places emphasis on respect for minority party wishes around both chairing of such bodies and the work programme.
- Being fair and balanced in the appointment of conveners, when there is interest from more than one councillor, e.g. giving opportunity to those who have not acted as convener previously.
- The Committee should reflect on the existing 'balance' of conveners to help inform future appointments.
- A minimum of three members should be present at all Panel / Working Group meetings.

6. Membership List of Existing Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups

- 6.1 A membership list of existing Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups is attached for the Committee's information - see **Appendix 2**.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: None

APPENDIX 1

FOR AGREEMENT: PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP LIST (as at 1 December 2020)

1. Inquiries:

Procurement Scrutiny Inquiry Panel (12)

Labour Councillors: 6

Philip Downing	Hazel Morris
Mandy Evans	Mary Sherwood
Peter Jones	Mike White

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 3

Wendy Fitzgerald	Jeff Jones
Chris Holley (CONVENER)	

Conservative Councillors: 2

Lyndon Jones	Brigitte Rowlands
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Uplands Councillors: 1

Irene Mann	
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2. Working Groups:

Workforce Scrutiny Working Group (13)

Labour Councillors: 8

Cyril Anderson (CONVENER)	Hazel Morris
Mike Durke	Paulette Smith
Joe Hale	Gloria Tanner
Yvonne Jardine	Lesley Walton

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 5

Chris Holley	Susan Jones
Lynda James	Cheryl Philpott
Mary Jones	

Digital Inclusion Scrutiny Working Group (8)

Labour Councillors: 5

Mark Child	Hazel Morris
Joe Hale	Lesley Walton (CONVENER)
Terry Hennegan	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 2

Chris Holley	Jeff Jones
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Conservative Councillors: 1

David Helliwell	
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Uplands Councillor: 0

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Bus Services Scrutiny Working Group (10)

Labour Councillors: 5

Phil Downing	Gloria Tanner
Peter Jones	Mike White
Paul Lloyd	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 3

Chris Holley	Cheryl Philpott
Lynda James	

Conservative Councillors: 2

David Helliwell	Lyndon Jones (CONVENER)
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Uplands Councillors: 0

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Healthy City Scrutiny Working Group (8)

Labour Councillors: 4

Joe Hale	Yvonne Jardine
Terry Hennegan	Hazel Morris

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 1

Mary Jones (CONVENER)	
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Conservative Councillors: 3

Lyndon Jones	Linda Tyler-Lloyd
Will Thomas	

Uplands Councillors: 0

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**SCRUTINY PANEL / WORKING GROUP
MEMBERSHIP LIST (as at 18 November 2020)**

1. Follow Up of Completed Inquiries:

Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry Panel (8)

Labour Councillors: 5

Mandy Evans	Hazel Morris
Terry Hennegan	Erika Kirchner
Yvonne Jardine	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 1

Susan Jones	
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Conservative Councillor: 1

Lyndon Jones	
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Uplands Councillor: 0

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Coopteers: 1

Dr. Gideon Calder	
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2. Performance Panels:

**Service Improvement & Finance
Scrutiny Performance Panel (11)**

Labour Councillors: 3

Phillip Downing	Des Thomas
Peter Jones	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 5

Peter Black	Mary Jones
Chris Holley (CONVENER)	Jeff Jones
Lynda James	

Conservative Councillor: 2

Paxton Hood-Williams	Brigitte Rowlands
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Uplands Councillor: 1

Irene Mann	
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Education Scrutiny Performance Panel (13)

Labour Councillors: 3

Cyril Anderson	Beverley Hopkins
Mike Durke	

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillor: 3

Mike Day	Susan Jones
Lynda James	

Conservative Councillor: 5

Steve Gallagher	Myles Langstone
David Helliwell	Linda Tyler-Lloyd
Lyndon Jones (CONVENER)	

Uplands Councillor: 0

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Other:

Statutory Co-opted Members: 2

David Anderson-Thomas	Parent Governor Representative
Alexander Roberts	Parent Governor Representative

Child & Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel (10)

Labour Councillors: 6

Cyril Anderson	Erika Kirchner
Mike Durke	Wendy Lewis
Yvonne Jardine	Des Thomas

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 3

Mike Day	Susan Jones
Kevin Griffiths	

Conservative Councillor: 1

Paxton Hood-Williams (CONVENER)	
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Uplands Councillor: 0

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Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel (11)

Labour Councillors: 6

Mandy Evans	Yvonne Jardine
Joe Hale	Hazel Morris
Erika Kirchner	Gloria Tanner

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 3

Chris Holley	Susan Jones (CONVENER)
Jeff Jones	

Conservative Councillor: 1

Paxton Hood-Williams	
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Uplands Councillor: 0

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Coopteers: 1

Tony Beddow	
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Development & Regeneration Scrutiny Performance Panel (15)

Labour Councillors: 4

Phil Downing	Peter Jones
Terry Hennegan	Mike White

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 7

Peter Black	Jeff Jones (CONVENER)
Wendy Fitzgerald	Mary Jones
Chris Holley	Susan Jones
Lynda James	

Conservative Councillor: 4

Steve Gallagher	Paxton Hood-Williams
David Helliwell	Will Thomas

Uplands Councillor: 0

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Natural Environment Scrutiny Performance Panel (11)

Councillors:

Labour Councillors: 4

Peter Jones (CONVENER)	Mary Sherwood
Hazel Morris	Christine Richards

Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 2

Wendy Fitzgerald	Mary Jones
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Conservative Councillor: 4

Steve Gallagher	Will Thomas
Brigitte Rowlands	Linda Tyler-Lloyd

Uplands Councillor: 1

Irene Mann	
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Agenda Item 9



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22

Purpose	This report presents the agreed Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/22, which the Committee is responsible for monitoring.
Content	The agreed work programme is attached, which shows the topics that will be examined by scrutiny through various Panels and Working Groups. A plan for future Committee meetings is also attached.
Councillors are being asked to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plan for the committee meetings ahead• consider opportunities for pre-decision scrutiny• review the scrutiny work programme (including progress of current Panels and Working Groups)
Lead Councillor	Councillor Peter Black, Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee
Lead Officer	Tracey Meredith, Chief Legal Officer
Report Author	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Programme Committee is responsible for developing the Council's scrutiny work programme, and managing the overall work of scrutiny to ensure that it is as effective as possible.
- 1.2 A report is provided to each meeting to enable the committee to maintain an overview of agreed scrutiny activities, monitor progress, and coordinate work as necessary.
- 1.3 The broad aim of the scrutiny function is to engage non-executive councillors in activities to:

- provide an effective challenge to the executive
 - help improve services, policies, and performance
 - engage the public in its work
- 1.4 The Scrutiny Work Programme is guided by the overriding principle that the work of scrutiny should be strategic and significant, focussed on issues of concern, and represent a good use of scrutiny time and resources.

It also needs to be:

- manageable, realistic and achievable given resources available to support activities
 - relevant to council priorities
 - adding value and having maximum impact
 - coordinated and avoids duplication
- 1.5 The work of scrutiny is undertaken primarily in three ways – through the Committee itself, by establishing informal Panels (for in-depth activities) or via one-off Working Groups. Panels and Working Groups would be open to all non-executive councillors - the Committee will determine membership and conveners following expressions of interest.
- 1.6 Scrutiny will regularly send letters to Cabinet Members communicating findings, views and recommendations for improvement and, where appropriate, by producing reports. Inquiry panels will always produce a final report at the end of the inquiry with conclusions and recommendations for Cabinet (and other decision-makers), informed by the evidence gathered. Inquiry panels will reconvene to follow up on the implementation of agreed recommendations and the impact of their work – usually 6-12 months following cabinet decision.
- 1.7 Although much of the work of scrutiny is carried out by informal Panels and Working Groups these meetings are accessible to the public. Agendas, reports and letters relating to all such scrutiny activities are published, in the same manner as the committee, on the Council's modern.gov online platform:

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1&LLL=0>

2. Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22

- 2.1.1 Following discussion at the Committee meeting on 17 November the agreed scrutiny work programme for 2020/22 is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.1.2. The following paragraphs break down the work programme by specific ways of working to provide a brief overview.

2.2 Scrutiny Programme Committee:

2.2.1 The Committee work plan for the year ahead is attached as **Appendix 2**. This should be kept under review to ensure it represents a robust, manageable, and effective plan. In order to ensure coverage of scrutiny across all cabinet portfolios and address any gaps in the work programme, a small number of topics have been identified for inclusion in the Committee's work plan. In each case, the relevant Cabinet Member would be asked to report and answer questions on the following portfolio responsibilities:

- Brexit (Cllr Rob Stewart)
- Business & City Promotion (Cllr Robert Francis-Davies)
- Tourism, Destination Management, and Marketing (incl. Scrutiny Working Group follow up) (Cllr Robert Francis-Davies)
- Highways & Engineering, Infrastructure Repairs and Maintenance (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Litter and Community Cleansing (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Parking Policy, Control & Enforcement (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Energy Policy (incl. Generation, Supply & District Heating) (Cllr Andrea Lewis)

These will be scheduled where space allows between now and May 2022.

2.2.2 Committee members should review and confirm items for the next and future meetings giving specific consideration to who should attend so that meetings are always well planned and prepared for, e.g. information required and key questions that the Committee wishes to ask.

2.2.3 The main item(s) scheduled for the next Committee meeting on 19 January are:

- Cabinet Member Question Session: Leader / Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy - Councillor Rob Stewart. This session will focus on: COVID-19, Budget, Brexit, Partnership Working (incl. the Great Western Gateway new economic partnership).
- Pre-decision Scrutiny:
 - a) Proposed Lease to Mumbles Community Council under the Community Asset Transfer Policy (relates to the proposed development of a new Skatepark by the Community Council).
 - b) Business Case for the Relocation of Civic Centre.

2.2.4 The Committee will have the opportunity to review priorities and introduce issues of concern as and when they arise, e.g. pre-decision scrutiny or call-in which may require extra meetings.

2.2.5 Pre-decision scrutiny – this is carried out by the Committee unless delegated elsewhere. The Committee is invited to consider the available information on future cabinet business and any opportunities for pre-decision scrutiny, taking into account strategic impact, public interest, and financial implications (see Cabinet Forward Plan attached as **Appendix 3**). Any requests will require discussion with relevant cabinet member(s) to confirm timescales and window of opportunity for scrutiny involvement. Pre-decision scrutiny enables scrutiny to develop understanding about and ask questions on proposed Cabinet reports to provide ‘critical friend’ challenge and influence decision-making.

2.3 Inquiry Panels:

2.3.1 Once membership and a convener have been appointed the first task of an Inquiry Panel will be to have a briefing on the issue and then determine the key question and terms of reference for the inquiry. Once the planning stage is complete, the inquiry will be evidence gathering, with the last stage being to develop the final report.

In Progress / Planned	Completed (follow up stage)
1. Procurement (initial meeting of re-convened Panel to be arranged)	1. Equalities (Jan 2021)

2.4 Performance Panels:

2.4.1 The following Performance Panels, which will enable regular and structured monitoring of performance within these key areas, have been agreed and will meet on an ongoing basis until otherwise agreed by the Committee (frequency of meetings in brackets):

Performance Panel	Convener
1. Service Improvement & Finance (monthly)	Cllr. Chris Holley
2. Education (monthly)	Cllr. Lyndon Jones
3. Adult Services (every six weeks)	Cllr. Susan Jones
4. Child & Family Services (every six weeks)	Cllr. Paxton Hood-Williams
5. Development & Regeneration (every two months)	Cllr. Jeff Jones
6. Natural Environment (every two months)	Cllr. Peter Jones

2.4.2 Performance Panel conveners are scheduled to provide a regular update to the Committee to enable discussion on key activities and impact.

2.5 Working Groups:

2.5.1 The following Working Groups will be convened during the year ahead, in the order shown:

1. Workforce 2. Digital Inclusion	3. Bus Services 4. Healthy City
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Reserve List:

- Road Safety
- Active Travel
- Accessibility for the Disabled / Elderly

2.6 Regional Scrutiny:

2.6.1 **Education Through Regional Working** - Swansea scrutiny is involved in an informal regional scrutiny arrangement with the six councils participating in the 'Education Through Regional Working' (ERW) school improvement consortium. A Scrutiny Councillor Group has been in existence since 2016 in order to provide challenge to ERW, coordinate scrutiny work across the region and ensure a consistent approach. The Swansea Scrutiny Team is providing support for this group as the Council's contribution to ERW via Service Level Agreement. Swansea is represented by the chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee and convener of the Education Performance Panel.

2.6.2 **Swansea Bay City Region City Deal** – Swansea scrutiny is also involved in the Swansea Bay City Region Joint Scrutiny Committee established during 2018/19. This formal arrangement involves three councillor representatives from each of the four Councils involved in the City Deal, meeting to scrutinise the work of the Joint Committee responsible for delivering the City Deal programme. As per Joint Committee Agreement, the Joint Scrutiny Committee is serviced by Neath Port Talbot Council.

3. **Monitoring the Work Programme**

3.1 The Committee is responsible for monitoring progress against the agreed work programme and this includes work undertaken by the informal Panels and Working Groups and findings, to ensure that this work is effective and has the required visibility.

3.2 **Appendix 4a** provides a timetable of all scrutiny activities (projected or actual where dates are known). Lead councillors and officers are also noted within.

3.3 **Appendix 4b** provides a snapshot of progress with all of the Panels and Working Groups established by the Committee and their current position.

3.4 The work plans of the individual Performance Panels are also **attached** to improve Committee oversight of topics being examined, check coverage across cabinet portfolios, and help avoid duplication of effort between the Committee and Panels and between Panels etc.

- 3.5 The work programme is kept under constant review by the Committee, with changes made as necessary. The Committee will always retain the flexibility to adapt and re-prioritise the work of scrutiny, to ensure the continued relevance of the programme.

4. Public Requests for Scrutiny / Councillor Calls for Action

- 4.1 Members of the public are able to make requests for scrutiny by contacting the Chair or Scrutiny Team in writing detailing the issue of concern, its impact, and suggested action. In accordance with agreed protocol the chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee will consider any requests received and bring about proposals to deal with these to the Committee for consideration. Taking into account relevant advice, any such issues may merit inclusion in the work programme, referral elsewhere, or no action.

- 4.2 Public Request - a public request for scrutiny has been received regarding work on the bridleway at Clyne Valley Woods and concern about the nature of the works and consultation / due process, and possible damage to the nature reserve area. The Cabinet Member for Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management has advised that the existing 2.5km Bridleway running through the park, currently available to walkers, cyclists, and horses, is being resurfaced to accommodate the needs and concerns of current users of this path. It is not, as some believe, the creation of a new cycle path. The Council has looked at materials that are sympathetic to the environment as well as users of the path. Signage will be erected to remind people that the path is for everyone and they should respect that, along with the installation of speed control measures where possible, to avoid excessive speeds on the path. This new improved path will meet with stated objectives to expand our network of Active Travel routes right across Swansea following Swansea wide consultation carried out in 2017.

- 4.3 Chair's Response – it was considered appropriate to refer immediately to the Cabinet Member for direct response to the member of the public. Discussion of this matter within scrutiny is not considered necessary.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Any costs that arise out of work plan activities, for example expenses for witnesses or transport costs, are not envisaged to be significant and will be contained within the existing Scrutiny Budget.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Agreed Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22

Appendix 2: Scrutiny Programme Committee Work Plan 2020/22

Appendix 3: Cabinet Forward Plan

Appendix 4a: Scrutiny Work Programme – Projected Timetable of Activity

Appendix 4b: Progress Report – Current Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups

Appendix 5: Performance Panel Work Plans

Appendix 1 – Agreed Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22

New Inquiry Panel (time-limited in-depth scrutiny – six months)	New Working Groups (light-touch scrutiny / one-off meetings)	Performance Panels (ongoing in-depth performance / financial monitoring & challenge)	Issues for Scrutiny Programme Committee (Overall work programme management; discussion of broad range of policy and service issues)
<p>1. Procurement (previous Terms of Reference / Key Question to be reviewed / updated - What is the Council doing to ensure it procures locally, ethically, and greenly while being cost effective and transparent in its practices?)</p> <p>2. Anti-Social Behaviour (Terms of Reference to be agreed by Panel but would focus on how we can reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities, look at factors behind rising anti-social behaviour; inter-agency working, the role of elected members, reporting, etc.)</p> <p>Follow Up of Previous Inquiries:</p> <p>1. Equalities</p>	<p>1. Workforce (how the Council supports health & well-being of staff; issues around home working; staff sickness; staff turnover; use of agency staff, pressures, etc.)</p> <p>2. Digital Inclusion (follow up on previous discussion around digital transformation, the Council's digital inclusion strategy, and how well prepared both the Council and the public is to use and communicate / engage via digital technology to avoid exclusion / poor access, etc.)</p> <p>3. Bus Services (discussion about bus network coverage and levels of service; community transport provision; integration with other forms of transport, etc.)</p> <p>4. Healthy City (exploration of activities, promotion, particularly physical activities, including provision of outdoor sport and activities and opportunities for young people, etc.)</p>	<p>1. Service Improvement & Finance (monthly)</p> <p>2. Education (monthly)</p> <p>3. Adult Services (every 6 weeks)</p> <p>4. Child & Family Services (every 6 weeks)</p> <p>5. Development & Regeneration (every two months)</p> <p>6. Natural Environment (every two months)</p> <p>Specific issues to cover within wider work plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Improvement & Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate Plan – Review / Progress - Council Byelaws - Budget Scrutiny - Performance Management - Waste Management & Recycling – incl. questioning on fly-tipping experiences & council activity - Welsh Housing Quality Standard • Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21st Century Schools - Additional Learning Needs - Children Educated at Home - Delivery of Corporate Priorities - Remodelled Education Other Than at School Provision • Adult Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 and Community Mental Health - Delivery of Corporate Priorities - Domestic Abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Council response and Recovery Plan / Transformation • Brexit Preparedness • Specific reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children & Young People's Rights Scheme - Corporate Safeguarding - Delivery of Corporate Priority – Tackling Poverty Homelessness Strategy – progress (incl. discussion on Young People's Supported Housing Provision) • Leader Q & A Session(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brexit - Partnership Working - Great Western Gateway • Other Cabinet Member Q & As (issues to pick up): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tbc • Public Services Board • Crime & Disorder (Community Safety)Scrutiny: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incl. Community Cohesion / Hate Crime • Wales Audit Office Reports • Follow Up on Previous Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism

Appendix 1 – Agreed Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/22

	<p>Reserve List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Safety (hot spots; work to improve safety; preventative measures; speed controls; safety of cycling routes; partnership working, etc.) • Active Travel (are we meeting obligations of Welsh Government Active Travel Act; encouragement of cycling / walking; particular focus on cycling given experience during pandemic – are we making the most of opportunities to embed increased cycling, etc.) • Accessibility for the Disabled / Elderly (to look into concerns around mobility around city centre and access, e.g. and whether there is sufficient curb dropping to help mobility scooters, and other facilities to improve access and wellbeing, etc.). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child & Family Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of Corporate Priorities - Forced Marriages – Safeguarding issues • Development & Regeneration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Deal and effects of COVID-19 - Delivery of Corporate Priorities - Economic Regeneration Strategy - Foreshore Developments - Historic / Listed Buildings • Natural Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate Change - Delivery of Corporate Priorities - Environment Bill 2020 Implications - Nature Conservation – regular monitoring of activity and performance
<p>Regional Scrutiny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERW (Education through Regional Working) Specific issues to pick up: ERW Replacement organisation – post April 2021 • City Deal (Swansea Bay City Region Joint Scrutiny Committee) 		

Appendix 2

Scrutiny Programme Committee – Work Plan 2020/22

ACTIVITY	17 November 2020	15 December 2020	19 January 2021	16 February 2021	16 March 2021	13 April 2021
Scrutiny Work Programme	Draft Work Programme for Agreement					
Cabinet Member Question & Answer Sessions			Leader / Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy (incl. discussion on COVID, Budget, Brexit, Partnership Working)			
Specific Cabinet Member / Officer Reports	COVID-19 Update on Response / Recovery Plan	Public Services Board Annual Report		Children & Young People's Rights Scheme	COVID-19	Homelessness Strategy / Action Plan – Progress
Scrutiny Performance Panel Progress Reports		Education	Service Improvement & Finance	Child & Family Services	Adult Services	Development & Regeneration
Pre-decision Scrutiny			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Lease to Mumbles Community Council under the Community Asset Transfer Policy • Business Case for Relocation of Civic Centre 			
Final Scrutiny Inquiry Reports / Follow Up on Scrutiny Recommendations						
Scrutiny Reports to Council			Draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20			Scrutiny Dispatches Impact Report

ACTIVITY	18 May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021
Scrutiny Work Programme	Work Programme Review					
Cabinet Member Question & Answer Sessions						
Specific Cabinet Member / Officer Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 • Crime & Disorder Scrutiny - Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership 	Public Services Board	COVID-19	Delivery of Corporate Priority – Tackling Poverty	COVID-19	Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report
Scrutiny Performance Panel Progress Reports	Natural Environment	Education	Service Improvement & Finance	Child & Family Services	Adult Services	Development & Regeneration
Pre-decision Scrutiny						
Final Scrutiny Inquiry Reports / Follow Up on Scrutiny Recommendations						
Scrutiny Reports to Council			Scrutiny Dispatches Impact Report			Scrutiny Dispatches Impact Report

* denotes extra meeting

To be scheduled:

Cabinet Members to report on and answer questions on the following portfolio responsibilities:

- Brexit (Cllr Rob Stewart)
- Business & City Promotion (Cllr Robert Francis-Davies)
- Tourism, Destination Management, and Marketing (incl. Working Group follow up) (Cllr Robert Francis-Davies)
- Highways & Engineering, Infrastructure Repairs and Maintenance (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Litter and Community Cleansing (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Parking Policy, Control & Enforcement (Cllr Mark Thomas)
- Energy Policy (incl. Generation, Supply & District Heating) (Cllr Andrea Lewis)

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Quarter 1 2020/21 Performance Monitoring Report.	To report the performance indicator results and summarise the Council's performance meetings its priorities for the first quarter period April 2020 – June 2020.	Richard Rowlands	Cabinet Member - Business Improvement & Performance	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2nd Quarter 2020/21.	To note any significant variations from the agreed budget 2020/21 and savings plan and the actions planned to achieve a balanced budget.	Ben Smith	Cabinet Member - Economy, Finance and Strategy (Leader)	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open
Delivery Update on Welsh Medium Provision for YGG Tan-y-lan and YGG Tirdeunaw.	The new build school for YGG Tan-y-lan has been delayed. The School Organisation Code requires that the decision makers (Cabinet) determine a new implementation date.	Kelly Small	Cabinet Member - Education Improvement, Learning & Skills	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
<p>Continuation of Swansea City Centre Business Improvement District (BID)</p>	<p>Swansea BID was incepted in 2006 and a continuation BID was agreed in 2011 and 2016. The current BID is coming to the end of its current 5 year term and will be subject to a ballot renewal process for a subsequent fourth term in March - June 2021.</p> <p>The purpose of the Report is to overview the BID scheme to date and, as one of the largest BID members/ stakeholders, to set out the implications for the Council of the continuance of the BID with a view to seeking the support of members.</p>	Lisa Wells	Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader)	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open
<p>Variation of Legal Agreement to School Improvement through Regional Working (ERW).</p>	<p>To consider the recommendation of the ERW Joint Committee to vary the Legal Agreement to allow for provision of NPT services and determination of the Agreement.</p>	Tracey Meredith	Cabinet Member - Education Improvement, Learning & Skills	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
FPR7 - Additional Capital Allocation to Highway Infrastructure Assets 2020-21.	To comply with Financial Procedure Rule No. 7 (Capital Programming and Appraisals) – to commit and authorise schemes to improve infrastructure assets.	Bob Fenwick	Cabinet Member - Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open
Wind Street Public Realm Enhancement: FPR7	A report was presented to Cabinet in July 2019 and a capital sum of £1,528,000 was approved to deliver realm enhancements to a 'silver standard' as referenced within the report. Recent tenders obtained exceeds this sum. The report sets out the reasons for the increased requirement.	Gareth Hughes	Cabinet Member - Investment, Regeneration & Tourism	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open

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Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Welsh Government Green Recovery Circular Economy Funds 2020-21- Funding Applications for Four Repair/Re-use Projects.	<p>To seek authorisation to bid for capital and revenue grant funding from two Welsh Government’s Circular Economy Funds FY 20-21 for the setting up of a Repair Café and Library of Things at the Council’s Re-use Shop in Llansamlet, a Mobile Repair Café, improvements to repair and re-use through partnership with the private and 3rd Sectors, and cycle repair stations in partnership with the Environment Centre.</p>	Chris Howell	Cabinet Member - Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Open
Proposed Purchase of a City Centre Property Investment.	<p>In accordance with the recently formed Property Investment Fund, an opportunity has arisen which will generate a net financial benefit for the Council. A report was approved by Cabinet in 2019 however an updated report is now required for submission.</p>	Tom Rees	Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader)	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Fully exempt

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Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Proposed Acquisition of City Centre Leasehold Property and Redevelopment FPR7.	Leasehold acquisition and redevelopment of the Former BHS building to create a City Centre Community Hub.	Elliott Williams, Geoff Bacon	Cabinet Member - Investment, Regeneration & Tourism, Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader)	Cabinet	17 Dec 2020	Fully exempt

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
<p>Proposed Lease to Mumbles Community Council under the Community Asset Transfer Policy.</p>	<p>Mumbles Community Council (MCC) have proposed to develop a new, high standard, Skatepark within their ward.</p> <p>The proposal may qualify as an undervalue disposal under the Community Asset Transfer policy subject to Cabinet approval of an undervalue disposal using well- being powers.</p> <p>A site options appraisal has been undertaken in order to identify the most suitable location for the development. MCC have provided a business plan to ensure their obligation to be fully responsible for the construction and maintenance of the facility is sustainable in the long term.</p>	<p>Jamie Rewbridge</p>	<p>Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader), Cabinet Member - Investment, Regeneration & Tourism</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>21 Jan 2021</p>	<p>Open</p>

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Sustainable Swansea - Fit for the Future: Budget Proposals 2021/22 – 2025/26.	To consider budget proposals for 2021/22 to 2025/26 as part of the Council's Budget Strategy Sustainable Swansea - fit for the future. To enable consultation to take place with residents, employees, partners and other interested parties.	Ben Smith	Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader), Cabinet Member - Economy, Finance and Strategy (Leader)	Cabinet	21 Jan 2021	Open
Dylan Thomas Exhibition Relocation.	Report seeks approval and funding to relocate the Dylan Thomas Exhibition from its previous home to the Swansea Museum	Christopher Mellor	Cabinet Member - Investment, Regeneration & Tourism	Cabinet	21 Jan 2021	Open
Business Case for Relocation of the Civic Centre.	Business Case outlining the proposal to relocate from the Civic Centre to a new Public Sector Hub on the Phase 2 City Centre Regeneration site and various other Council buildings across the County.	Geoff Bacon	Cabinet Member - Delivery & Operations (Deputy Leader)	Cabinet	21 Jan 2021	Open

Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Co-production Social Care Strategy.	The Co-production Strategy outlines the approach to embedding co-production across social services; setting out overarching principles, definitions, and describing required cultural, structural and procedural changes and how this links to the corporate and regional approach.	Lisa Banks, Jane Whitmore	Cabinet Members - Supporting Communities, Cabinet Member - Children Services, Cabinet Member - Adult Social Care & Community Health Services	Cabinet	21 Jan 2021	Open
Welsh Government Housing Support Grant Procurement Plan 2021 – 2024.	This report details the procurement plan for Housing Support Grant and seeks approval to issue contract extensions in line with the proposed timescales for providers which are currently commissioned to ensure service provision is sustainable, creates efficiencies and improves outcomes for people that use services	Jane Whitmore, Peter Field	Cabinet Member - Adult Social Care & Community Health Services	Cabinet	21 Jan 2021	Fully exempt

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Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 3rd Quarter 2020/21.	To note any significant variations from the agreed budget 2020/21 and savings plan and the actions planned to achieve a balanced budget.	Ben Smith	Cabinet Member - Economy, Finance and Strategy (Leader)	Cabinet	18 Feb 2021	Open
Annual Review Of Charges (Social Services) 2020/21.	This report sets out the annual review of Swansea Council's charges (social services), providing a transparent framework for the setting of charges and the application of allowances to citizens who receive managed care and support, provided or arranged by the council.	Simon Jones	Cabinet Member - Adult Social Care & Community Health Services	Cabinet	18 Feb 2021	Open

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Appendix 3 – Cabinet Forward Plan 2020 – 2021

Report Title	Report Summary	Report Author	Portfolio	Decision to be taken by	Date of Expected Decision	Exempt Details
Walking Route for School Children between Gowerton and Gorseinon.	A dedicated off road active travel route has been constructed between Gowerton and Kingsbridge, Gorseinon. The report sets out the process used to determine its suitability as a walking route for school children between Gorseinon and Y G Gwyr in Gowerton and the possible impact on the future provision of free home to school transport for these pupils.	Cath Swain	Cabinet Member - Education Improvement, Learning & Skills, Cabinet Member - Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	Cabinet	18 Mar 2021	Open

Activity / Month	OCT 2020	NOV	DEC	JAN 2021	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
PERFORMANCE PANELS:												
Service Improvement & Finance (monthly) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Chris Holley Lead Scrutiny Officer: Michelle Roberts / Emily Davies Lead Cabinet Member: Rob Stewart / Andrew Stevens Lead CMT: Adam Hill / Ben Smith Lead Head of Service: cross-cutting		9	14	20	*TBA Budget	8	12	10				
Education (monthly) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Lyndon Jones Lead Scrutiny Officer: Michelle Roberts Lead Cabinet Member: Jennifer Raynor Lead CMT: Helen Morgan-Rees Lead Head of Service: cross-cutting	22	19	17	21	25	16	22	13				
Adult Services (every 6 weeks) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Sue Jones Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: Clive Lloyd Lead CMT: Dave Howes Lead Head of Service: Amy Hawkins / Helen St John	20		16 Joint with CFS	26 Joint with CFS	Budget Joint with CFS	9	20					
Child & Family Services (every 6 weeks) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Paxton Hood-Williams Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: Elliot King Lead CMT: Dave Howes Lead Head of Service: Julie Davies	28		16 Joint with Adult	26 Joint with Adult	Budget Joint with Adult	24		5				

Activity / Month	OCT 2020	NOV	DEC	JAN 2021	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Development & Regeneration (every 2 months) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Jeff Jones Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan / Emily Davies Lead Cabinet Member: Rob Stewart / Robert Francis-Davies Lead CMT: Martin Nicholls Lead Head of Service: Phil Holmes		3		12	Budget	2		11				
Natural Environment (every 2 months) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Peter Jones Lead Scrutiny Officer: Brij Madahar / Emily Davies Lead Cabinet Member: David Hopkins Lead CMT: Martin Nicholls Lead Head of Service: cross-cutting			14									
WORKING GROUPS:												
Topic 1 - Workforce Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Cyril Anderson Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: David Hopkins / Andrew Stevens Lead CMT: Adam Hill Lead Head of Service: Ben Smith												
Topic 2 – Digital Inclusion Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Lesley Walton Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: Andrew Stevens Lead CMT: Adam Hill Lead Head of Service: Sarah Lackenby												

Activity / Month	OCT 2020	NOV	DEC	JAN 2021	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Topic 3 – Bus Services Lead Scrutiny Councillor: tbc Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: Mark Thomas Lead CMT: Martin Nicholls Lead Head of Service: Stuart Davies												
Topic 4 – Healthy City Lead Scrutiny Councillor: tbc Lead Scrutiny Officer: Liz Jordan Lead Cabinet Member: Clive Lloyd / Robert Francis-Davies Lead CMT: Martin Nicholls Lead Head of Service: Tracey McNulty												
REGIONAL SCRUTINY:												
ERW - Education through Regional Working (quarterly) Lead Scrutiny Councillors: Lyndon Jones / Peter Black Lead Scrutiny Officer: Michelle Roberts Lead ERW: Ian Altman / Greg Morgan Lead Cabinet Member: Jennifer Raynor Lead CMT: Helen Morgan-Rees Lead Head of Service: Regional Lead: Phil Roberts (Lead Director for ERW)		26										

Activity / Month	OCT 2020	NOV	DEC	JAN 2021	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
Swansea Bay City Region Joint Scrutiny Committee (every 2 months) Lead Scrutiny Councillor: Rob James (Carmarthenshire Council) Swansea Scrutiny Councillors: Jan Curtice / Phil Downing / Jeff Jones Lead Scrutiny Officer: Stacy Curran, Neath Port Talbot Council Lead Cabinet Member: Rob Stewart Lead CMT: Phil Roberts / Martin Nicholls Lead Head of Service: Phil Holmes	12				2							

* denotes extra meeting

Information correct as of 08/12/20 08:47

Progress Report – Current Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups

1. Inquiry Panels:

These will undertake in-depth inquiries into specific and significant areas of concern on a task and finish basis, and will be expected to take around six months to complete to enable wide-ranging evidence gathering, and production of a final report with conclusions and recommendations for Cabinet (and other decision-makers).

a) **Procurement** (convener: Cllr Chris Holley)

Key Question: What is the Council doing to ensure it procures locally, ethically, and greenly while being cost effective and transparent in its practices?

Progress Bar:

Planning				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The Procurement Pre-Inquiry Working Group originally met on 24 October 2019 for an overview / briefing on the subject matter. This helped Councillors to be informed about how scrutiny can contribute to improvement and the focus, scale and direction of any inquiry. The Panel agreed to undertake an inquiry and the Terms of Reference were agreed. The inquiry work was then placed on hold pending recruitment of Scrutiny Officer / available resources.

The Inquiry Panel will now resume and, given the passage of time and impact of the pandemic, will initially meet to review the key question and terms of reference and amend as necessary.

The inquiry may take up to six months to complete, as it will call for wide ranging evidence, and will lead to a report with conclusions and recommendations that will be presented to Cabinet.

2. Follow Up on Completed Inquiries:

Follow-ups of inquiries will consider both the implementation of scrutiny recommendations and wider impact / difference made. Inquiry Panels are reconvened between 6-12 months after cabinet decision on Inquiry reports.

Inquiry	Cabinet Decision	Recommendations			Follow Up Panel Meeting
		Agreed	Partly	Rejected	
Equalities	21 Nov 2019	18	0	0	28 Jan 2021

3. Performance Panels:

Performance Panels enable regular and structured in-depth monitoring of performance and challenge within these key areas:

a) **Service Improvement & Finance** (convener: Cllr Chris Holley)

The Panel meets every month. On 9 November, the Panel met to discuss Q1 Budget Monitoring 2020/21, Review of Revenue Reserves and Mid Term Budget Statement. Recycling and Landfill Annual Performance Monitoring 2019/20 was also discussed. The next meeting will be held on 14 December and will focus on the Equality Plan Review 2019/20.

b) **Education** (convener: Cllr Lyndon Jones)

This Panel meets every month. A progress report appears separately in the agenda as Item No. 7.

c) **Adult Services** (convener: Cllr Susan Jones)

This Panel meets every 6 weeks. The Panel met on 20 October to discuss the Performance Monitoring report for September 2020, to receive a briefing on Staff Sickness in Adult Services and to discuss the draft Work Plan for 2020-21. Due to the pressures of the Covid-19 Pandemic, a Joint Social Services Panel meeting will be held in December, January and February and will receive the Performance Monitoring reports for Adult Services and Child and Family Services, and an update on management of Covid-19. The meeting in February will also receive the draft budget proposals for both areas. It is currently planned for separate Panel meetings to recommence in March 2021.

d) **Child & Family Services** (convener: Cllr Paxton Hood-Williams)

This Panel meets every 6 weeks. The Panel met on 28 October to discuss Wales Audit Office Follow Up Review of Corporate Safeguarding Arrangements for Children in Swansea and the draft Work Plan for 2020-21. Due to the pressures of the Covid-19 Pandemic, a joint Social Services panel meeting will be held in December, January and February and will receive the Performance Monitoring reports for Adult Services and Child and Family Services, and an update on management of Covid-19. The meeting in February will also receive the draft budget proposals for both areas. It is currently planned for separate Panel meetings to recommence in March 2021.

e) **Development & Regeneration** (convener: Cllr Jeff Jones)

This Panel meets every two months. The most recent meeting on 3 November discussed the current progress in relation to development and regeneration activity as outlined within the 'Dashboard Report', which is regularly provided to the Panel. At the next meeting on 12

January, as well as the usual 'Dashboard' Report, Commercial Opportunities in Rural Areas will be discussed. The Panel is also likely to hear from Swansea University, presenting on their involvement with the City Deal and their proposals for inward investment from a Swansea perspective.

f) Natural Environment (convener: Cllr Peter Jones)

This Panel meets every two months. The next Panel meeting takes place on 14 December and will focus on monitoring the delivery of the Council's Corporate Priority – Maintaining & Enhancing Swansea's Natural Resources - and discuss the Council action plan following the authority's Climate Emergency Declaration. The convener of the Panel for this municipal year will be confirmed by the Panel, and reported verbally to the Committee.

4. Regional Scrutiny:

This is collaborative scrutiny with other Local Authorities for topics / issues of shared interest or concern, and models of regional working.

a) Education Through Regional Working

The Scrutiny Councillor Group met remotely on 26 November 2020. They met with the Chair of the Lead Chief Executive and the Managing Directors to discuss the effects of Covid on the business of ERW and progress with ERW reform programme. They also discussed the business plan and risk register. The next meeting will take place around March 2021.

b) Swansea Bay City Region City

The Joint Scrutiny Committee met for the first time since January in October for an update on the City Deal Programme and Projects, as well as discussion around the impact of COVID-19. A meeting planned for December was cancelled. The Committee is expected to meet again on 2 February 2021.

5. Working Groups:

A number of new topics have been identified which will be dealt with through one-off Working Groups. These enable a 'light-touch' approach to specific topics of concern and will be planned as a one-off meeting (in the order shown below) primarily involving discussion with relevant cabinet member(s) / officer(s), and any other persons called, to gather information, ask questions, and give views / raise any concerns.

a) **Workforce** (convener: Cllr Cyril Anderson)

This will enable information, questions and discussion on how the Council supports health & well-being of staff; issues around home working; staff sickness; staff turnover; use of agency staff, pressures, etc.

b) **Digital Inclusion** (convener: Cllr Lesley Walton)

This will enable information, questions and discussion, following up on previous scrutiny discussion around digital transformation, the Council's digital inclusion strategy, and how well prepared both the Council and the public is to use and communicate / engage with increasing dependency on digital technology and interaction, to avoid exclusion / poor access, etc.

c) **Bus Services** (convener: tbc)

This will enable information, questions and discussion about bus network coverage and levels of service; community transport provision; integration with other forms of transport, etc.

d) **Healthy City** (convener: tbc)

This will enable information, questions and discussion on Swansea as a healthy city, exploring in particular the provision, and promotion of, outdoor sport and activities and opportunities for young people, etc.

Service Improvement and Finance Work Plan

<p>Meeting 1 9 Nov 2020</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work Planning for 2020/21 2. Q1 Budget Monitoring 2020/21 3. Review of Revenue Reserves 4. Mid Term Budget Statement Ben Smith – Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer 5. Recycling and Landfill - Annual Performance Monitoring 2019/20 Chris Howell – Head of Waste Management and Parks Cllr Mark Thomas – Cabinet Member for Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management
<p>Meeting 2 14 Dec 2020</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equality Plan Review Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manager Cllr Louise Gibbard – Cabinet Member for Supporting Communities
<p>Meeting 3 11 Jan 2021</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget Proposals 2. Q2 Budget Monitoring 2020/21 Ben Smith – Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer Rob Stewart – Cabinet Member for Economy and Strategy 3. Q1 Performance Monitoring Report 2019/20 Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manager Cllr Andrew Stevens - Cabinet Member for Business Improvement & Performance 4. Overview/Summary of Commissioning Review Outcomes Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manage
<p>Meeting 4 Feb 2021 Date TBC</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable Swansea - Fit for the Future: Budget Proposals 2021/22 – 2023/24 – pre-decision scrutiny Ben Smith – Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer Cllr Rob Stewart – Cabinet Member for Economy and Strategy 2. Budget realisation, what are we budgeting for 3. Q2 Performance Monitoring Report 2019/20 Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manager Cllr Andrew Stevens - Cabinet Member for Business Improvement & Performance
<p>Meeting 5 8 Mar 2021</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid-Year Budget Statement 2020/21 2. Q3 Budget Monitoring 2020/21 Ben Smith – Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer Cllr Rob Stewart – Cabinet Member for Economy and Strategy 3. Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 2019/20 Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manager Cllr Andrew Stevens - Cabinet Member for Business Improvement & Performance
<p>Meeting 6 10 April 2021</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Complaints Annual Report 2020/21 Julie Nicholas Humphreys - Customer Services Manager Cllr David Hopkins – Cabinet Member for Delivery and Performance 2. Planning Annual Performance Report 2019/2020 Ian Davies - Development Conservation and Design Manager Cllr David Hopkins – Cabinet Member for Delivery
<p>Meeting 7 12 May 2021</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Review of Well-being Objectives and Corporate Plan 2018/22 2. How Performance has been affected by Covid-19 situation Richard Rowlands – Corporate Performance Manager Cllr Rob Stewart – Cabinet Member Economy and Strategy

Review of Byelaws to be added to the work programme – date to be agreed

Education Scrutiny Performance Panel Work Plan

Date	Items to be discussed	Who
Meeting 1 22 Oct 2020	1. Update on implications and the recovery plan resulting from the impact of Covid-19 in Education and Schools (<i>cont'd from meeting in July</i>) 2. Update on the key issues affecting Education more widely 3. Planning the rest of the Council year in Education Scrutiny – Draft Work Programme (for discussion by Panel)	Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees Panel
Meeting 2 19 Nov 2020	1. School 1 – Waun Wen Primary School (<i>part of panels watching brief on Wellbeing in Schools and was on work programme for March 2020</i>). How the school meets the needs of their most vulnerable pupils, the challenges they face and what they do to meet/mitigate those challenges including through the Covid-19 crisis. 2. Elective Home Education	Headteacher Ms C Nicklin Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees Kate Phillips
Meeting 3 17 Dec 2020	1. Swansea Skills Partnership 2. Update – Education and Schools recovery from Covid 3. Annual Audit of Schools (<i>for information item</i>)	Members of Partnership Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees
Meeting 4 21 Jan 2021	1. Analysis of pupil and school performance (<i>Annual item</i>) 2. Behaviour Strategy and how associated delegated spend to schools has been used (<i>Panel identified this item for scrutiny pre March</i>) 3. PDG summary of spend to support vulnerable pupils (<i>Annual item</i>)	Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees
Meeting 5 Feb -date tbc	Annual Budget as it relates to Educations matters (<i>Annual item</i>)	Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees
Meeting 6 25 Feb 2021	School 2 - Penyrheol Comprehensive School – Discuss school performance	Headteacher, Chair of Governors and Challenge Adviser
Meeting 7 18 Mar 2021	1. Additional Learning Needs Reform and implementation (<i>watching brief item</i>) 2. New Curriculum update including progress with implementation (<i>watching brief item</i>) 3. The New Estyn Regime and summary of outcomes of thematic reviews	Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees
Meeting 8 22 Apr 2021	School 3 – Morriston Secondary School – Discuss school improvement following Estyn Monitoring	Headteacher, Chair of Governors and Challenge Adviser
Meeting 9 13 May 2021	1. Education Other Than At Schools Update (EOTAS), including progress with new provision (meeting to be added for May 2021) 2. Update 21 st Century Schools Programme	Cllr J Raynor H Morgan Rees

ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE PANEL WORK PLAN

Meeting Date	Items to be discussed
Meeting 1 Tuesday 20 October 2020 4.00pm	Appointment of Panel Convener Performance Monitoring <i>Amy Hawkins, Interim Head of Adult Services</i> <i>Helen St John, Interim Head of Integrated Community Services</i> Sickness Levels in Adult Services briefing (Deferred from March 2020 meeting) <i>Amy Hawkins / Helen St John</i> Adult Services Work Programme 2020/21
Meeting 2 Wednesday 16 December 2020 2pm JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING	Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i> Performance Monitoring (shorter item with COVID focus. Panel members to provide questions in advance to be answered at meeting) <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i>
Meeting 3 Tuesday 26 January 2020 4pm JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING	Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i> Performance Monitoring (shorter item with COVID focus. Panel members to provide questions in advance to be answered at meeting) <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i>
Meeting 4 - BUDGET MEETING ? February 2021 JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING	Draft Budget Proposals for Child and Family Services / Adult Services <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i> Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i>
Meeting 5 Tuesday 9 March 2021 4.00pm	Update on West Glamorgan Transformation Programme <i>Kelly Gillings, Programme Director</i> WAO Report on Integrated Care Fund (CFS Panel Members to be invited for this item) <i>Kelly Gillings, Programme Director</i> Effects of Covid-19 pandemic in residential homes and actions taken TBC (include data from March to present day) MAY ALREADY HAVE BEEN COVERED IN MONTHLY UPDATES DEC/JAN 2020

	Amy Hawkins TBC / Helen St John TBC
Meeting 6 Tuesday 20 April 2021 4.00pm	Performance Monitoring <i>Amy Hawkins / Helen St John</i> Update on how Council's policy commitments translate to Adult Services <i>Clive Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Community Health Services</i> <i>Dave Howes, Director of Social Services</i> Actions from WAO report 'Front door to Adult Social Care' – Recommendation: Impact of Preventative Services (specific action: to use feedback from the study and whether any additional improvement actions needed) (Agreed at March 2020 meeting) <i>Amy Hawkins TBC /Helen StJohn TBC</i> <i>Lucy Friday, Principal Officer Transformation</i>
Meeting ? June 2021 TBC	Update on Adult Services Transformation Programme <i>Amy Hawkins/Helen St John</i> Briefing on Annual Review of Charges (Social Services) 2020/21 <i>Dave Howes, Director of Social Services</i>
Meeting ?July/August TBC	Performance Monitoring <i>Amy Hawkins / Helen St John</i> Isolation of elderly people

Future Work Programme items:

- Complaints Annual Report 2019-20 for Child and Family Services / Adult Services (Date TBC – moved from joint Feb 2020 meeting) Sarah Lackenby, Chief Transformation Officer
- Options Appraisal for Assistive Technology and Community Alarms (Agreed pre March 2020) June/July 2021 Date TBC (Helen St John)
- Actions from WAO Report 'Front Door to Adult Social Care' (from March 2020 meeting):
 - Impact of Preventative Services (Was October 2020. Now scheduled for 20 April 2021)
 - Public Information (July 2021?)
 - Working with Third Sector Partners (July 2021?)
- Wales Audit Office Reports (dates to be confirmed):
- Domestic Violence – increase over pandemic Scheduled for CFS Panel 24 March 2021. (AS Panel to be invited)

**CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE PANEL
WORK PLAN**

<p>Meeting 1 Wednesday 28 October 2020 4pm</p>	<p>Confirmation of Convener</p> <p>WAO report: Follow-up review of corporate arrangements for the safeguarding of children – City and County of Swansea <i>Simon Jones, Social Services Strategy and Performance Improvement Officer</i></p> <p>Draft Work Programme 2020/21</p>
<p>Meeting 2 Wednesday 16 December 2020 2pm</p> <p>JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING</p>	<p>Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p> <p>Performance Monitoring (shorter item with COVID focus. Panel members to provide questions in advance to be answered at meeting) <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p>
<p>Meeting 3 Tuesday 26 January 2020 4pm</p> <p>JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING</p>	<p>Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p> <p>Performance Monitoring (shorter item with COVID focus. Panel members to provide questions in advance to be answered at meeting) <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p>
<p>Meeting 4 - BUDGET MEETING ? February 2021</p> <p>JOINT SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING</p>	<p>Draft Budget Proposals for Child and Family Services / Adult Services <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p> <p>Update on Managing COVID-19 pandemic <i>Clive Lloyd, Elliott King, Dave Howes</i></p>
<p>Meeting 5 Wednesday 24 March 2021 4pm</p>	<p>Performance Monitoring <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i></p> <p>WAO report: Tackling Violence Against Women, Domestic (includes fieldwork in Swansea amongst others) (include briefing on the increase in domestic violence over the pandemic and a breakdown of collaboration between CFS and AS in terms of domestic abuse)</p> <p>AS Panel Members to be invited for this item</p> <p><i>Jane Whitmore, Strategic Lead Commissioner Kelli Richards / Megan Stevens</i></p>

	<p>Briefing on Carers Assessments (including young carers; and response to issues raised in focus group at Carers Centre) <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i></p>
<p>Meeting 6 Wednesday 5 May 2021 3.30pm</p>	<p>Briefing on Youth Offending Service <i>Jay McCabe, Principal Officer Bays+ and Youth Justice Services</i></p> <p>Update on progress with CAMHS <i>Joanne Abbott-Davies, Assistant Director of Strategy & Partnerships, West Glamorgan University Health Board</i> TBC <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i> <i>Gavin Evans, Youth Support Services Manager TBC</i></p>
<p>Meeting ? June 2021 TBC</p>	<p>Performance Monitoring <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i></p> <p>Update on Regional Adoption Service <i>Nichola Rogers, Regional Adoption Manager, Western Bay Adoption Service</i></p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board Update <i>Gemma Whyley, Child and Family Services Project Manager TBC</i></p>
<p>Meeting ? July/August 2021 TBC</p>	<p>Progress on Child and Family Improvement Programme <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i> <i>Gemma Whyley, Child and Family Services Project Manager</i></p> <p>Update on Child Disability Services <i>Julie Davies, Head of Child and Family Services</i> <i>Christopher Francis – Principal Officer, Child and Family Services TBC</i></p>

Future work plan items:

- Complaints Annual Report 2019-20 for Child and Family Services / Adult Services (Date TBC – moved from joint Feb 2020 meeting) Sarah Lackenby, Chief Transformation Officer
- Forced Marriages – Safeguarding issues (from scrutiny work planning conference) Include in item on Safeguarding when it next comes to the Panel
- Delivery of Corporate Priorities (from scrutiny work planning conference). Invite Cabinet Member for Q&A (Date tbc)
- Wales Audit Office Reports (dates to be confirmed) –
 - Integrated Care Fund (Joint Adult Services and CFS) Scheduled for AS Panel 9 March 2021 (CFS Panel to be invited).
- Why children become looked after (TBC)

- Examples of tools and techniques employed by front line staff in family engagement (TBC)
- Case Studies on Edge of Care (date TBC)

Development and Regeneration Scrutiny Performance Panel Work Plan

Meeting 1 3 rd November 2020	Confirmation of Panel Convener
	Dashboard Report <i>Phil Holmes – Head of Planning and City Regeneration</i> <i>Huw Mowbray - Property Development Manager</i>
	Draft Work Plan 2020-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final work plan to be discussed
Additional meeting TBC (Closed)	Arena Contract with ATG
Meeting 2 12 th January 2021	Dashboard Report <i>Phil Holmes – Head of Planning and City Regeneration</i> <i>Huw Mowbray - Property Development Manager</i>
	Commercial Opportunities in Rural Areas update <i>Clare James – Economic Development Manager</i> <i>Victoria Thompson – External Funding Programme Officer</i>
	Swansea University and Trinity St David (TBC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on involvement with City Deal and their proposals for inward investment from a Swansea perspective. <i>University Representatives (TBC)</i>
Meeting 3 Additional February 2021	Budget Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Budget Proposals in relation to Development and Regeneration
	Swansea BID (TBC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on their current viewpoint regarding the City Deal and developments in the City Centre. <i>Russell Greenslade (Invite accepted, pending date TBC)</i>
Meeting 4 2 nd March 2021	Dashboard Report <i>Phil Holmes – Head of Planning and City Regeneration</i> <i>Huw Mowbray - Property Development Manager</i>
	The Ambassador Theatre Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview presentation on their plans for Swansea Arena, including current progress and any issues <i>Stuart Beeby, Group Operations Director, ATG</i> <i>Clare Dixon, ATG UK Business Manager</i>

Meeting 5 11 th May 2021	Dashboard Report <i>Phil Holmes – Head of Planning and City Regeneration</i> <i>Huw Mowbray - Property Development Manager</i>
	Update on City Centre Travel Plan <i>Cllr Mark Thomas – Cabinet Member for Environment Enhancement and Infrastructure</i> <i>Stuart Davies – Head of Highways and Transportation</i>

To be scheduled (inclusive of suggestions from Work Planning Conference)

- FPR7 Report regarding City Deal
- Follow up - Impact of Brexit on Rural Development Programme (TBC for Oct/Nov 2021)
- Delivery of Corporate Priorities
- Economic Regeneration Strategy
- Foreshore Developments (June 2021 TBC)
- Historic / Listed Buildings

Natural Environment Scrutiny Performance Panel

DRAFT Work Plan

Meeting 1 14 December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring Delivery of Corporate Priority – Maintaining & Enhancing Swansea’s Natural Resources• Climate Emergency Declaration – Council Action Plan• To agree Work Plan 2020/21
Meeting 2 TBC February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management of Green Space / Weed & Verge Management (incl. discussion on use of glyphosate and wildflower planting programme; green infrastructure)
Meeting 3 TBC April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air Quality Management
Meeting 4 TBC June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring Delivery of Corporate Priority – Maintaining & Enhancing Swansea’s Natural Resources• Climate Emergency Declaration – Council Action Plan progress
Meeting 5 TBC August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Flood Risk Management• Ash Die Back Update
Meeting 6 TBC October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water Pollution (incl. discussion on marine biodiversity)• Environmental Tourism

Agenda Item 10



Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Scrutiny Letters

Purpose:	To ensure the Committee is aware of the scrutiny letters produced following various scrutiny activities, and to track responses to date.
Content:	The report includes a log of scrutiny letters produced this year, and provides a copy of correspondence between scrutiny and cabinet members where discussion is required.
Councillors are being asked to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the scrutiny letters and responses• Make comments, observations and recommendations as necessary
Lead Councillor:	Councillor Peter Black, Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee
Lead Officer:	Tracey Meredith, Chief Legal Officer
Report Author:	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The production of scrutiny letters has become an established part of the way scrutiny operates in Swansea. Letters from the chair (or conveners) allow scrutiny to communicate directly and quickly with relevant cabinet members.
- 1.2 These letters are used to convey views and conclusions about particular issues discussed and provide the opportunity to raise concerns, ask for further information, and make recommendations. This enables scrutiny to engage with Cabinet Members on a regular and structured basis.

2. Reporting of Letters

- 2.1 All scrutiny letters, whether they are written by the Scrutiny Programme Committee or conveners of panels / working groups, are published to ensure visibility, of the outcomes from meetings, across the council and public.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Programme Committee agenda also includes a copy of letters to/from Cabinet Members where specific discussion is required, e.g. letters relating to the Committee, Working Groups, and Inquiry Panel follow ups. Letters are included when cabinet member responses that were awaited are received or where a scrutiny letter did not require a response.
- 2.3 Where requested Cabinet Members are expected to respond in writing to scrutiny letters within 21 calendar days. The response should indicate what action (if any) they intend to take as a result of the views and recommendations made.
- 2.4 Letters relating to the work of Performance Panels are part of an ongoing dialogue with Cabinet Members and are therefore reported back and monitored by each Panel. However all Performance Panel conveners will provide a progress report to the Committee, including summary of correspondence with Cabinet Members and outcomes.

3. Letters Log

- 3.1 This report contains a log of scrutiny letters produced to enable the committee to maintain an overview of letters activity over the year – see **Appendix 1**. The letters log also shows the average time taken by Cabinet Members to respond to scrutiny letters, and the percentage of letters responded to within timescale.
- 3.2 The following letter(s), not already reported to the Committee, are **attached** for discussion:

	Activity	Meeting Date	Correspondence
a	Committee – COVID-19 Response & Recovery	17 Nov	Letter to Leader / Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Scrutiny Letters Log

Appendix 2: Correspondence between scrutiny and cabinet members

Scrutiny Letters Log (2020-2021)

Ave. Response Time (days): 21 (target within 21 days) % responses within target: 60

No.	Committee / Panel / Working Group	Meeting Date	Main Issue(s)	Cabinet Portfolio	Letter Sent	Response Received	Days Taken	Reported to SPC (if applicable)
1	Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel	21-Sep	Annual Performance Monitoring Report 2019/2020	Business Improvement & Performance	02-Oct	23-Oct	21	n/a
2	Natural Environment Performance Panel	01-Sep	COVID-19 impacts, issues and environmental lessons	Joint Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management and Delivery & Operations	05-Oct	30-Oct	25	n/a
3	Natural Environment Performance Panel	01-Sep	Follow Up - Natural Environment Scrutiny Inquiry	Delivery & Operations	05-Oct	n/a	n/a	17-Nov
4	Natural Environment Performance Panel	01-Sep	Local Flood Risk Management	Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	05-Oct	n/a	n/a	n/a
5	Development & Regeneration Performance Panel	14-Sep	Project Update Report	Economy, Finance & Strategy (Leader)	06-Oct	04-Nov	29	n/a
6	Child & Family Services Performance Panel	16-Sep	Update on COVID-19 in relation to Child & Family Services	Children Services - Early Years	07-Oct	n/a	n/a	n/a

7	Education Performance Panel	22-Oct	Update on COVID-19 in relation to Education and opening of schools, work planning.	Education Improvement, Learning & Skills	03-Nov	n/a	n/a	n/a
8	Education Performance Panel	22-Oct	Thank you to Education and Schools to Director	Education Improvement, Learning & Skills	03-Nov	n/a	n/a	n/a
9	Adult Services Performance Panel	20-Oct	Performance Monitoring and Sickness Levels in Adult Services and work planning	Adult Social Care & Community Health Services	04-Nov	25-Nov	21	n/a
10	Child & Family Services Performance Panel	28-Oct	WAO Report follow up review of corporate arrangements for safeguarding of children in Swansea	Children Services	16-Nov	n/a	n/a	n/a
11	Development & Regeneration Performance Panel	03-Nov	City Centre developments, dashboard updates	Economy, Finance & Strategy (Leader)	19-Nov			n/a
12	Development & Regeneration Performance Panel	03-Nov	Dashboard Report (Active Travel) and Landore Metro	Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	19-Nov	27-Nov	8	n/a
13	Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel	09-Nov	Q1 Budget Monitoring Report, Review of Revenue Reserves, Mid Term Budget Statement	Economy, Finance & Strategy (Leader)	25-Nov			

14	Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel	09-Nov	Recycling and Landfill Annual Performance Monitoring Report 2019/20	Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management	25-Nov			
15	Committee	17-Nov	COVID-19 response & recovery	Economy, Finance & Strategy (Leader)	03-Dec	n/a	n/a	15-Dec
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**To/
Councillor Rob Stewart
Cabinet Member for Economy,
Finance & Strategy (Leader)**

BY EMAIL

cc: Cabinet Members

*Please ask for:
Gofynnwch am:*

*Direct Line:
Linell Uniongyrochol:*

*e-Mail
e-Bost:*

*Our Ref
Ein Cyf:*

*Your Ref
Eich Cyf:*

*Date
Dyddiad:*

Scrutiny

01792 637257

scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk

SPC/2020-21/1

03 December 2020

Summary: This is a letter from the Scrutiny Programme Committee to the Leader & Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy following the meeting of the Committee on 17 November 2020. It is about the Council's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Planning.

Dear Councillor Stewart,

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 17 November

Thank you for attending the Scrutiny Programme Committee on 17 November 2020 to update us and answer questions about the Council's COVID-19 response and recovery planning.

We thank the Chief Executive for sharing with us the key developments over recent weeks, the current local COVID-19 situation, the outlook and challenges we face. The Committee also benefited from the Deputy Chief Executive talking about the recently agreed recovery and transformation plan, and contributions from the Director of Place.

This letter reflects on what we learnt from the discussion, shares the views of the Committee, and highlights any outstanding issues / actions for your response - main issues summarised below.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU
SWANSEA COUNCIL / CYNGOR ABERTAWE
GUILDHALL, SWANSEA, SA1 4PE / NEUADD Y DDINAS, ABERTAWE, SA1 4PE
www.swansea.gov.uk / www.abertawe.gov.uk

I dderbyn yr wybodaeth hon mewn fformat arall neu yn Gymraeg, cysylltwch â'r person uchod
To receive this information in alternative format, or in Welsh please contact the above

Current Local Situation

When the Committee last discussed the situation at the end of August the discussion was very much about remobilisation and recovery as the number of cases was relatively low. Since then we have of course seen a second wave of COVID-19 and obvious impacts, including significantly increased pressure on the Test, Trace & Protect service. We acknowledged the pressure on the organisation and adjustment to services to manage the firebreak, protect citizens, enforce rules and support businesses. We were told that the authority is coping but stretched dealing with COVID-19 and day-to-day business, not least flooding following recent downpours. The spread of coronavirus in Denmark following the COVID-19 mutation in mink was also a cause for concern and we heard how about the successful management of those who had travelled from Denmark into Swansea.

We noted that since being placed under local restrictions there has been a significant reduction in the rate of infection and the rate of positive tests, though it is too early to say if this is a long-term trend. At the time of our meeting, we heard that Swansea had a case per 100,000 ratio of 225 against the Wales average of 165 and a testing positivity rate of 16.4% against the Welsh average of 13.3%. The impact of the national firebreak lockdown was not yet clear, and we were warned of a challenging winter ahead. We were told of significant pressures on health and social care, needing the organisation to mobilise staff to provide back office and logistical support in Social Services so that key officers can focus on the front-line. The Council is working with health on an increase in care home testing.

The Committee was told that whilst not yet being needed, the Bay field hospital is ready to be operational to deal with any future surge, should there be an issue with capacity in our local hospitals, as we approach the winter. The situation was being closely monitored. The Committee asked about the impact on staffing in social care should the field hospital become necessary.

We were advised that in the run up to Christmas we will need to monitor closely the difficulties that city centres face in retail and hospitality sectors and the management of large numbers of people in public areas. One potential change talked about was the need for compulsory wearing of facemasks in crowded areas to ensure people stay safe – something being discussed with the Welsh Government, and the police and colleagues in Cardiff who face similar issues. It is important that the movement of people within the city centre, particularly in enclosed areas like the Quadrant and Swansea Market, is well organised and clearly signposted, to ensure safe distancing and more so as we approach the Christmas period.

We talked about the impact on retail, both from the pandemic and competition from online shopping, which is causing businesses, including Debenhams, to reassess their footprint and rental floorspace needs, despite the various measures of support being provided. One of the issues also being business rates, which is a matter for Welsh Government to address. The news this week that Debenhams has gone into liquidation, and the Arcadia Group has gone into administration is of course concerning for our city centre.

Positive Developments

We welcomed the major developments around vaccines in recent weeks, with a further announcement, since our meeting, regarding the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine. We noted that the Council is working closely with regional partners to meet the challenge of preparing for a rollout of a mass vaccination programme. We heard that the Bay field hospital and satellites in Gorseinon and Margam, could be utilised for this purpose, along with a mobile programme, but were awaiting advice and clarity about the national vaccination programme and rate of release to our region, to ensure a co-ordinated response. We understood that priority would likely be given to residents and staff in care homes, which alone will be a massive undertaking to organise and deliver, not least if there are issues around storage of vaccines. We noted that Swansea has a higher proportion of people in residential care, across Council facilities and the independent sector, than other cities. The news this week that the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been approved for use in the UK is a major development and we hope there can be rapid rollout in this area.

The continuing progress on regeneration and development, and delivery of the capital programme, was again highlighted to the Committee, despite the pandemic - something that our Scrutiny Panel is closely monitoring.

Recovery Planning

Our papers included the recently agreed cabinet report on plans and initial priorities to support organisational, economic and social recovery and future transformation of the Council. We asked in particular about the different phases, status, and projected timelines:

- **Phase 1 - Remobilise** (short term): restarting and adapting a wide range of Council Services, at the same time as responding to COVID.
- **Phase 2 - Refocus** (short to medium term – up to May 2022): a strategic response to support the city to emerge and grow from the crisis delivering our corporate priorities. Effectively how we manage the interim period whilst COVID is still with us.
- **Phase 3 - Reshape** (long term – after May 2022 Council election): longer term City and County regeneration and development strategy, including a new Corporate Plan, Financial Plan, Workforce Strategy and Digital Strategy. Effectively the period effectively beyond COVID.

We also asked about the key recovery milestones, that will aid monitoring and assessment of progress. It would help us to understand what success looks like, as the plan is rolled out. It was highlighted to the Committee that the plan provides an overarching strategy and framework but detailed work will flow from the plan focussing on different recovery themes with specific objectives and milestones. This includes work, some of which has already started, around policy change, service transformation, workforce planning, tourism economy, community support, digital services, as well as focus on key services such as care services, education and learning, and the economy and environment. It was also stressed to us that given the current situation and uncertain outlook, the plan is flexible.

We also asked about the link between the plan and corporate priorities, for example how the 'natural environment' features within the overarching recovery and transformation strategy. We just wanted to make sure of due consideration being given to the Environment Act, and what we need to do in response to the Climate Emergency, in work to reshape the Council.

There was also recognition of Brexit, and how we cope with the immediate pressure and effects in parallel with COVID. Thank you for sharing with us after the meeting a Brexit exposure dashboard showing possible implications for Swansea, that is designed to help our planning our planning for EU exit. We are planning to hold a Q & A session with you at our January Committee meeting. As well as the latest on COVID, the Committee would like to discuss, amongst other things, the Council's Brexit preparedness, by which time things are hopefully clearer about the UK's Brexit deal or otherwise.

The Committee intends to follow up on progress with the recovery plan, as part of our ongoing discussion on the Council's COVID response and recovery. It would be helpful to have the detail referred to, that can show us the objectives, milestones and achievements against each of the key recovery themes. We agreed that it would be reasonable for a report back to the Committee, specifically on this, in six months.

Your Response

We hope that you find the contents of this letter useful and would welcome any comments, however we do not expect you to provide a formal response.

Yours sincerely,



COUNCILLOR PETER BLACK

Chair, Scrutiny Programme Committee

✉ cllr.peter.black@swansea.gov.uk

Agenda Item 11



Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 December 2020

Date and Time of Upcoming Scrutiny Panel Meetings

15 December – 18 January

- a) 16 December at 2.00pm – Joint Social Services Performance Panel
- b) 17 December at 4.00pm – Education Scrutiny Performance Panel
- c) 12 January at 10.00am – Development & Regeneration Scrutiny Performance Panel

Meetings will be held remotely via MS Teams