



## Report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Performance

Council – 21 March 2024

### Annual Review of Well-being Objectives

<b>Purpose:</b>	To recommend any changes to the Council's well-being objectives as the result of an annual review that requires, as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, public bodies to assess whether their well-being objectives remain appropriate or not.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	<i>Delivering a Successful &amp; Sustainable Swansea Corporate Plan 2023/28</i>
<b>Consultation:</b>	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that Council:  1) Approves that the Council's well-being objectives remain unchanged for 2024/28.
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#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2023/28 *Delivering a Successful & Sustainable Swansea* includes a summary of the council's key priorities, known as 'well-being objectives', which are a requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 1.2 The Corporate Plan and well-being objectives were reviewed and updated for 2023/28. The review of the Corporate Plan and our well-being objectives for 2023/28 was undertaken by consulting with local people and by assessing, among other sources, the following evidence:

- Future trends and challenges.
  - Future Generations Commissioners Report 2020.
  - Our policy commitments.
- 1.3 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires that each year public bodies must review their well-being objectives. In doing so, public bodies can assess whether their well-being objectives are appropriate or not, to the extent that:
- they will contribute to the achievement of the national well-being goals;
  - public bodies consider they are taking all reasonable steps to meet them, and;
  - they remain consistent with the sustainable development principle.
- 1.4 This report sets out the methodology used to undertake the review of the Councils well-being objectives in readiness for 2024/25 and the outcome.

## **2. Methodology**

- 2.1 Each well-being objective is underpinned by evidence, including and not restricted to:
- The Future Generations Report.
  - Welsh Government Future Trends Report.
  - Swansea PSB Assessment of Local Wellbeing.
  - Welsh Government National Milestones and Indicators.
  - Swansea Council Policy commitments.
  - Annual Review of Performance.
  - Quarterly and Annual Performance Reporting.
  - Corporate Risks.
- 2.2 The well-being objectives were reviewed for 2024/25 by assessing any changes that had taken place since March 2023 to the evidence that was used to develop the objectives. This was done to determine whether any changes needed to be made to any of the well-being objectives in readiness for 2024/25.

## **3. Considerations**

- 3.1 The annual review of well-being objectives concerned the objectives themselves, i.e., a review of the evidence to help determine if the wording of the objectives needed to be changed, or whether new objectives should be added or existing objectives removed, or a combination of these different options or that no changes are required.

3.2 The review did not concern the detail in the Corporate Plan to deliver or measure progress meeting the well-being objectives, such as the steps in the Corporate Plan, the performance indicators and success measures. The detail in the Corporate Plan will be reviewed by April 2024 following approval of the Council's budget on March 6<sup>th</sup> and will link in with the service planning and PI setting process and will take into account any updates that are required.

#### **4. Outcome**

4.1 The outcome from the review determined that no changes were needed to the Council's well-being objectives for 2024/25. A report on the outcome from the review is attached at Appendix A.

#### **5. Integrated Assessment Implications**

5.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

5.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales by acting, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals.

5.3 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also considers other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

- 5.4 The Corporate Plan is a high level and strategic document that sets out the Council's well-being objectives and how it will take steps to meet them.
- 5.5 A full IIA was applied in March 2023 to the development of the Corporate Plan and to the well-being objectives for the five-year period 2023/28.
- 5.6 The annual review of well-being objectives concerns the objectives themselves, i.e., a review of any changes made to the evidence since March 2023 to help determine if the wording of the objectives needed to be changed, or whether new objectives should be added or existing objectives removed, or a combination of these different options or that no changes are required.
- 5.7 The review did not concern the detail in the Corporate Plan to deliver or measure progress meeting the well-being objectives, such as the steps in the Corporate Plan, the performance indicators and success measures.
- 5.8 The review concluded that the evidence suggested no changes were needed to the Council's well-being objectives for 2024/25 and so the IIA completed in March 2023 still applies.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 In the current and anticipated financial environment further discussion and consideration will be required around priorities and target setting to ensure they can be delivered within available budgets and resources.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

**Background Papers:** None.

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix A Analysis of well-being objectives evidence
- Appendix B IIA screening form