

Appendix A: Recommendations from the Review of Strategic Partnerships, Welsh Government actions and Council actions already taken to date and future considerations for Swansea Council

Recommendation	WG progress / action to date	Council progress / action to date	Future actions for the Council
<p>1. No new partnerships should be established or required without referring to the existing landscape or considering whether an existing partnership can deliver the outcome required.</p>	<p>Welsh Government are currently consulting on proposals on Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) to establish 4 regional CJCs across Wales.</p> <p>It is proposed that the South West Wales CJC should include; the City and County of Swansea, Carmarthenshire County Council Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and the Brecon Beacons and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authorities.</p> <p>The intention is for them to exercise functions relating to strategic development planning and regional transport planning; they will also be able to do things to promote the economic well-being of their areas.</p>	<p>An Annual Report on the progress of Regional Working was taken to Council in July 2019. A Review of Partnerships in the City and County of Swansea was taken to Audit Committee in June 2020</p> <p>Partnerships are reviewed regularly as part of the governance of each. ERW has been reviewed and a new model of operation is to be put in place.</p> <p>PSB, is due for its terms of reference to be reviewed at its next meeting.</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council should develop a view on WG's proposals to implement CJCs. The Council should seek clarification on the alignment and potential duplication of CJCs with existing partnerships. For example, Swansea PSB also has a responsibility for promoting aspects of economic well-being. The Council will agree its response to Welsh Government proposals on 3rd Dec 2020.</p> <p>(ii) Swansea Council will continue to review partnership working and regional working arrangements on an annual basis.</p>

	<p>The consultation on the proposals ends on 4th January 2021.</p> <p>In terms of implementation, CJsCs must hold their first meeting by the end of September 2021.</p>		
<p>2. No new functions should be given to existing partnerships without considering what obligations can be reviewed or removed or what additional resources may be required.</p>	<p>(See above)</p>	<p>(See above)</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council will continue to review all its Strategic Partnerships and their functions, with a view to implementing new arrangements where necessary to stream line and rationalise partnership working, which reflect local needs.</p>
<p>3. Welsh Government considers whether departments can reduce the partnership arrangements set up to administer specific grant programmes.</p>	<p>No significant progress</p>	<p>The Business Support Commissioning Review and the Commissioning Review of Family Support (part of Sustainable Swansea – Fit for the Future) programme have resulted in greater efficiencies in relation to the administration and commissioning arrangements for grant funded programmes.</p>	

<p>4. Welsh Government to write to Chairs of all partnerships to clarify and confirm that flexibilities exist to for partnerships to review their own arrangements and alignment as appropriate – in terms of policy and geography.</p>	<p>No significant progress</p>	<p>Awaiting confirmation from WG that the flexibilities which currently are not allowed due to legal requirements will be relaxed.</p>	<p>i) Swansea Council will continue to review all its Strategic Partnerships and their functions, with a view to implementing new arrangements where necessary to stream line and rationalise partnership working, which reflect local need once clarification and confirmation of the flexibilities has been received.</p>
<p>5. All strategic partnerships in an area should seek to play an active role to ensure that they are aligned more closely so that there are fewer partnerships. The multi-purpose strategic partnerships (such as PSBs and RPBs) have a natural leadership role in initiating this.</p>	<p>WG commissioned Professor Keith Moultrie (Institute of Public Care) to run a workshop relating to emerging arrangements across Regional Partnership and Public Services Boards. The workshop concluded that further joint working between the Welsh Government teams responsible for supporting RPBs and PSBs will be essential.</p>	<p>Swansea Council have explored developing a joint PSB with Neath Port Talbot Council. Currently there are no plans to develop further as there was no consensus for a regional PSB footprint.</p> <p>Swansea PSB and the West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board have held a work shop to explore the opportunities for joint working.</p>	<p>i) Swansea Council should consider when identified, encouraging a greater alignment of partnerships and priorities by either a policy area, or geographical footing in order to streamline and rationalise effort. This may not necessarily involve permanent structural change, as partnerships could come together on specific issues, in order to meet local priorities.</p>

		<p>ERW when replaced will be on a city deal footprint of 4 authorities.</p> <p>The substance misuse agenda has been re-engineered and a new regional approach is being developed by way of an integrated public health model.</p>	
<p>6. Welsh Government to provide offer of facilitation for partnerships to review how they are aligned on their footprints.</p>	<p>No significant progress</p>	<p>Awaiting offer</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council to consider which partnerships to prioritise, once information has been received on the resources available from Welsh Government's to facilitate a partnership review.</p>
<p>7. Welsh Government to explore and communicate how funding might best be distributed across strategic partnerships where it may be sensible to do so and to consider the capacity of partners to support these partnerships.</p>	<p>No significant progress</p>	<p>Awaiting information</p>	

<p>8. All strategic partnerships should commit to, and invest in, board development and the development of collaborative cultures throughout the constituent organisations.</p>	<p>No significant progress</p>	<p>Swansea PSB have held a number of Board development events such as “Walk in my shoes” which enabled board Members to visit Partners organisations and the observe the delivery of front line services and offered training opportunities in digital technologies such as story telling and the production of accessible documents including easy read formats and plain English.</p> <p>A number of training and advice sessions have been offered from various partners in relation to topic areas, across community safety and PSB.</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council to consider asking the chairs of Strategic Partnerships to promote national training and board development opportunities through organisations such as Academi Wales and to ask partners to identify if there are any opportunities within their own organisation to host or facilitate board development.</p>
<p>9. All strategic partnerships should publish basic information online, which is easily accessible, outlining terms of reference, vision, membership, reporting on</p>		<p>Swansea PSB publishes details of its membership, governance, agendas and minutes of its meetings on-line. The well-being plan has been produced in an easy read format, a screen reader version and a full statutory version.</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council should consider reviewing what information is available for all strategic partnerships and the information, communication and participation mechanisms that exist.</p>

<p>outcomes/progress and how citizens or communities can get involved.</p>		<p>The Council has also published an Annual Report on the Public Services Board and a series of guides to Public Service Boards.</p> <p>The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board publishes the minutes and papers of its meetings on-line. The well-being plan has been produced in an easy read format, an executive summary and a full statutory version.</p> <p>The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board also publishes an Annual Report in easy read version and full statutory version.</p>	<p>(ii) Strategic Partnerships should review the accessibility of all the material it publishes. To ensure there are easy read versions of screen reader formats.</p>
<p>10. As part of the normal cycle of review and reporting, all strategic partnerships should seek to build in periodic reviews of their terms of reference, governance arrangements,</p>		<p>Swansea PSB undertook a governance review in 2019.</p> <p>The West Glamorgan Regional Partnership undertook a review in 2018</p> <p>ERW has undertaken an review in 2020.</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council should ensure that the partnership landscape and the role and function of all Strategic Partnerships in Swansea are taken into account with any further review of partnerships within or connected to Swansea.</p>

<p>membership and alignment to other groups or partnerships.</p>			
<p>11. Partnership Council to periodically review the partnership landscape to consider whether, when and where Welsh Government policy or legislative change may be required.</p>		<p>n/a</p>	<p>(i) Swansea Council should review the partnership landscape to consider any WG policy or legislative arrangements as part of the process to review partnerships and regional working arrangements on an annual or bi-annual basis.</p>