



## Minutes of the Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, 21 October 2021 at 3.00 pm

**Present:** Councillor A S Lewis (Chair) Presided

Mark Brace, Police & Crime Commissioners Office  
Mark Brier, South Wales Police  
Amanda Carr, Swansea Council for Voluntary Service  
Kelvyn Curry, Mid & West Wales Fire Authority  
Martyn Evans, Natural Resources Wales  
Sian Harrop-Griffiths, Swansea Bay University Health Board  
Adam Hill, Swansea Council  
Deanne Martin, HM Prison & Probation Service  
Alun Michael, Police and Crime Commissioner  
Roger Thomas, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service  
Mark Wade, Health & Housing Group

**Also Present:**

Leanne Ahern, Swansea Council  
Allison Lowe, Swansea Council  
Rhian Millar, Swansea Council  
Steve Porter, Swansea Council  
Keith Reid, Public Health, Swansea Bay University Health Board  
Suzy Richards, Swansea Council  
Amy Richmond-Jones, Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service  
Richard Rowlands, Swansea Council

**Apologies for Absence**

Phil Roberts, Swansea Council  
Rob Stewart, Swansea Council

**18 Welcome.**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Kelvin Curry, Deputy Chair of the Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service to his first meeting as the new representative on Swansea Public Services Board.

**19 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interest.**

No declarations were made.

**20 Minutes.**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee Held on 17 June 2021 be signed and approved as a correct record.

**21 Update on Actions from Previous Meeting.**

Adam Hill reported that most of the actions were part of today's agenda.

In relation to the Critical Incident Group – Anti-Social Behaviour – scoping work was currently under way and an update would be provided at the next meeting.

**22 Public Question Time.**

There were no public questions.

**23 Assessment of Local Well-being 2022 Update.**

Richard Rowlands, Strategic Delivery & Performance Manager, Swansea Council presented a report to set out recent developments in preparing for the next Assessment of Local Well-being for 2022.

He outlined the recent developments in paragraph 2 of the report that had taken place since the last meeting which included the revised timetable.

Adam Hill referred to the letter from Swansea Public Services Board and the response from Rebecca Evans, Minister for Finance and Local Government (included at agenda items 13 & 14).

**24 Integrated Public Health Approach to Substance Misuse. (Verbal)**

Keith Reid, Director of Public Health provided a verbal update on the Integrated Public Health Approach to Substance Misuse.

He commenced by outlining the background following the declaration in 2018 of the Critical Incident Group on Substance Misuse in the Western Bay Region to focus action on drug supply. It also highlighted the issue of drug related deaths and the wider social impact of substance misuse in our communities.

An action plan was drawn up and it was recognised there was a requirement to move towards a different model of tackling substance misuse. The joint PSB also agreed that this approach should be adopted in January 2020.

The establishment of an Expert Advisory Panel be created to inform the work around tackling substance misuse by drawing on National and International subject matter experts (SME's) on the best approach in engaging with those both directly impacted and their families.

The Area Planning Board (APB) which oversees the implementation of the Welsh Government Substance Misuse Strategy agreed that the Expert Advisory Panel should take the form similar to the very successful Drugs Commission model that was formed in Dundee, Scotland.

The APB enlisted the assistance of "Figure 8" who were also involved in the Dundee Drugs Commission. Proposals for the implementation of a commission style approach in the Western Bay area continue to be developed and were at the launch position.

Membership of the Expert Advisory Panel would be independent, not drawn from local agencies but on a voluntary basis. They would not be paid for participation but bring expertise that was not routinely available locally. The findings would sit independently as recommendations.

A number of concerns had been raised around the Governance and to who the Panel would be accountable and how and Panel would operate during the Local Government Election purdah period. However, the development of services would continue whilst the Panel undertook its work.

There was a discussion over the terminology for the Panel / Commission and why the single service alliance approach delivery model that had previously been agreed had not progressed.

**Agreed** that further discussions should take place to consider the requirements and governance of the establishment of the Expert Advisory Panel and the single service alliance approach delivery model and an update be provided to a future meeting of the Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee.

## **25 Human Rights City Status. (Verbal)**

Rhian Millar, Consultation Co-Ordinator, Swansea Council provided an update on the progress regarding the vision of achieving Human Rights City Status for Swansea.

The Steering Group meetings which included representatives from each of the partners on the PSB had commenced with the next meeting scheduled for the following week.

A launch event was scheduled for Human Rights Day on 10 December which would formally launch the intention for Swansea to be a Human Rights City.

Engagement had progressed with community groups and the public via forums and a baseline awareness survey would shortly be progressed to understand the current awareness of human rights and what the priorities for Swansea should be.

In addition, the event on 10 December would showcase the work already ongoing in Swansea. Steering Group members were requested to bring examples of good work or ideas of what they would like to showcase at the launch event to the next Steering Group meeting.

Progress continued in relation to the European framework for Human Rights, and it was pleasing to note that we appeared to be meeting most of the requirements.

**26 Audit Wales Report - Rough Sleeping in Wales - Everyone's Problem; No One's Responsibility.**

Mark Wade and Steve Porter, Swansea Council provided an update on how Swansea was tackling rough sleeping in the City and to respond to the recommendations of the [Rough Sleeping in Wales – Everyone's Problem; No One's Responsibility | Audit Wales](#)

**Agreed that:**

- 1) Members of the Public Services Board (PSB) commit to using the Wales Audit Complex Needs Tool whenever initiating a new partnership, service, project, or service review/evaluation that provides services for people with complex needs outlined in Appendix A. (A revised condensed version would be circulated to partners).
- 2) Members of the PSB assess their services against the '*Wales Audit characteristics of public services that are better placed to respond to people with complex needs*' (Appendix B).

**27 Climate Change Commitment from Partners on Swansea Public Services Board. (Verbal)**

The Chair was pleased to report that the majority of partners had already provided their commitment and devised their own climate emergency actions, however a few were still outstanding.

Both the Health Board and Her Majesty's Prison & Probation Service verbally provided their commitment during the meeting. In addition, South Wales Police verbally provided their commitment and apologised for the delay as the information was currently with their Legal Department.

**28 Partnership Forum Options.**

Suzy Richards, Swansea Council presented proposals to stimulate discussion for PSB focus and delivery in response to the pandemic for 2021/22.

**Agreed that:**

- 1) A Virtual Partnership Forum be held in November focusing on Human Rights / Human Rights City;
- 2) A Virtual Partnership Forum is held in January / February 2022 focusing on a range of areas around Climate Change, Nature, City of Well-being and Wildlife;
- 3) Swansea Council for Voluntary Services (SCVS) technically host the above event;

- 4) An in person Partnership Forum be held in June 2022 focusing on Culture of Communities and future work programme;
- 5) The number of invitees is open to all the Partnership Forum members;
- 6) All partners commit to contributing volunteer breakout room facilitators (Leanne Ahern to email partners requesting nominations).

**29 Scrutiny Programme Committee Letter Dated 21 October 2021.**

For information.

**30 Wellbeing Assessment Letter to Welsh Government.**

For information.

**31 Response letter from Welsh Government dated 5 October 2021.**

For information.

**32 Future Work Programme:**

**Agreed** that the Work Plan be noted subject to the following additions:

16 December 2022

- Integrated Offender Management to include Community Safety development / Safer Communities Network.

10 February 2022

- Swansea Third Sector Compact Agreement Annual Report – Presentation.

The meeting ended at 4.36 pm

**Chair**