



Swansea Public Services Board Joint Committee – 21 June 2022

Local Well-being Assessment Update

Purpose:	To set out progress on the Assessment of Local Well-being 2022 and to outline requirements for the Swansea Well-being Plan by 2023
Link to Well-being Objective:	Cross cutting
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The Joint Committee note the report, including the conclusion of the assessment, an update on the analysis commission, and requirements / key stages towards the Well-being Plan. 2) The Joint Committee approve the setting up of a 'Well-being Plan Group', based on the approach used for the Assessment Editorial Group and including representatives of the statutory partners.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 required the second assessments of local well-being in Wales to be published by 5 May 2022. Swansea's assessment was published (on 5 May itself) at the web page: www.swansea.gov.uk/psbassessment2022

1.2 Various update reports have been provided to the Joint Committee during 2021 with the latest report (10 February 2022, item 8) available at: <https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=665&MId=10649&Ver=4&LLL=0>

A more recent update was also circulated to Joint Committee members by email on 9 May. This provided an update on the consultation (22 February to 18 March) and feedback received, sought the approval of statutory partners to publish the assessment, and outlined initial high-level stages towards the Well-being Plan.

1.3 Following the completion of the assessment, this work will now move towards the next phase; to develop a new Local Well-being Plan for Swansea which the Board must publish by May 2023.

2.0 Assessment developments

- 2.1 As part of the May email update, statutory partners were invited to sign off the assessment or propose any changes to the main document and/or the draft Consultation Feedback Report.
- 2.2 The current assessment web page notes that the document “may be subject to amendments as part of the approval process.” In recent weeks, work has continued to make further improvements to the assessment, including:
- Refinement and update of detail in light of new information received, updated statistics (where possible to include) and accepted suggested improvements from the consultation
 - Inclusion of selected public quotes relating to specific topics, taken from the Well-being Survey in Autumn 2021
 - Presentational improvements, e.g. formatting of tables/figures, hyperlinks to chapters/topics, referencing.
- 2.3 Work is also progressing on a number of annexes to the assessment:
- Consultation Feedback Report, including responses schedule
 - Additional analysis of data from the on-line public well-being survey for a revised and updated version of (previous) Annex 1
 - Statistical profiles of each of the six Community Areas (as in 2017)
 - ‘About the Assessment’ (providing further background, as in 2017).
- 2.4 Final versions of the main assessment document and annexes will be included on the web page as soon as possible.

3.0 Analysis Commission

- 3.1 The assessment contains a large volume of detailed information across the wide range of topics included within the four dimension-based chapters, and some further work is required to distil this information and highlight the key issues. As noted previously, research has been commissioned from Swansea University to bring out the key implications and messages (the ‘so what’) from the assessment, the key links between topics and dimensions of well-being, and what this means in practical terms for Swansea.
- 3.2 As part of the preparatory work on the research commission, dimension or strand leads from the Assessment Editorial Group were asked:
- What are the most significant issues for Swansea that have been identified through the Well-being assessment?
 - What are the most significant aspects of positive progress (strengths and assets) identified as having taken place over the past 5 years?
 - What are the main opportunities for integration across the four dimensions of well-being which will enable a collaborative solutions approach?

Responses to these questions form the starting point for this analysis.

3.3 This commission will form an important part of our ‘response analysis’ and the move towards the Plan stage. At time of writing, this has been delayed. However, the Assessment Editorial Group is due to meet imminently to consider initial drafts of this work. An update will be provided at the Committee meeting.

4.0 Statutory requirements for the Well-being Plan

4.1 The statutory guidance for the Plan is mainly within Welsh Government’s “Shared Purpose Shared Future” (SPSF) documents; in particular in SPSF3: Collective role (public services boards), Chapter 3 – *Preparing a Local Well-being Plan*.

4.2 Paragraphs 90-91 of SPSF3 note: The local well-being plan will set out how the board intends to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by setting local objectives which will maximise the contribution made by the board to achieving the well-being goals in its area. There are two main elements of a local well-being plan:

- (a) the local objectives; and
- (b) the steps the board proposes to take to meet the objectives.

4.3 In summary, the key initial stages towards the Well-being Plan are:

- Drafting and agreeing a set of local objectives and steps to address them
- Receiving advice from the Future Generations Commissioner
- Gathering information from partners
- Undertaking Integrated Impact and Equality Assessments
- Consultation with the public before the final objectives are agreed.

4.4 At an early stage in the drafting of local well-being plans, the Board must seek the advice of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales on how to take steps to meet local objectives in a manner which is consistent with the sustainable development principle. This stage requires a period of up to 14 weeks.

4.5 An initial approximate timeline for producing the Well-being Plan in 2022-23, including key stages and indicative dates, is shown below:

Stage	Date
Agree PSB priority objectives (emerging from Assessment)	July 2022
14-week advisory period with FGC	Jun – Sept 2022
Support from FGC, WG and partners	Jun – Sept 2022
Prepare draft Well-being Plan (WBP)	Sept 2022
Approval from PSB	Oct 2022
Consultation	Nov 2022 – Jan 2023
Prepare final WBP	Feb – March 2023
Formal approval	Mar – Apr 2023
Publication of WBP	May 2023

- 4.6 The detail of these stages are subject to confirmation and further development. In summary, the PSBs should allow time to confirm their *objectives* in advance of working with the Commissioner on how to deliver those objectives, i.e. *to develop the actions*. The Future Generations Commissioner has also advised that PSBs take the time to ensure that a 'response analysis' to the information within the well-being assessments is undertaken prior to the 14-week advisory period, i.e. before work commences to develop objectives and steps.
- 4.7 During this process, the Board must also produce a Well-being Statement, which should address:
- How and when will people be involved?
 - What will they be involved in?
 - Who will be involved?
 - What resources are needed to deliver the involvement?
 - How will feedback be given to people who were involved?
- 4.8 The board must explain in their local well-being plan how their local objectives and any steps they propose to take have been set with regard to any matters mentioned in the assessment, and should be reassured that those objectives are sufficiently robust to stand up to local scrutiny.
- 4.9 Paragraph 94 of SPSF3 notes: The assessment should provide the robust evidence base for a board to determine (and justify) the local objectives it sets. The local objectives set should reflect where the board has decided that collective action can be taken that will have a positive impact on the state of well-being in the area.

5.0 Proposals for an initial way forward in Swansea

- 5.1 Following the essential completion of its main task, the *Assessment Editorial Group* in its current form no longer has a clear, ongoing role. However, in view of resource requirements and time pressures (including prescribed consultation stages noted in the legislation), initial work on developing the Local Well-being Plan for Swansea will need to move forward quickly.
- 5.2 In the previous cycle, around five years ago, a 'Planning Group' undertook detailed work on Swansea's first Well-being Plan, including the development of Plan objectives and steps. This group, then a sub-group in the Board's structure, had a range of representatives from organisations in the partnership.
- 5.3 In the same way (in principle) as the assessment group, it is again suggested that a 'Well-being Plan Group' be formed, comprising of a relatively small group of perhaps around 8-12 named people responsible for co-ordinating the development of the Well-being Plan. This group would maintain a balance of organisations and subject expertise and ideally consist of appropriate representatives from all four statutory partner organisations (Council, Health Board, Fire and Rescue Service, NRW), and any others suggested by the Joint Committee. Existing members of the Assessment group could continue their role in the new group, although partners may wish to review their representatives.

5.4 This group would again receive steer, refer decisions and report progress on the Plan to the Joint Committee. Members will also need to be able to commit resource and be mindful of wider requirements, for example around engagement and involvement. Subject to the initial views of this Committee, more detailed proposals to create this group will be progressed quickly. One of the first tasks will be to set draft well-being objectives for the Board's approval and to start the engagement work with statutory bodies and other stakeholders.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Joint Committee note the report, including the conclusion of the assessment, an update on the analysis commission, and requirements / key stages towards the Well-being Plan.
- 6.2 The Joint Committee approve the setting up of a 'Well-being Plan Group', based on the approach used for the Assessment Editorial Group and including representatives of the statutory partners.

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