

## **Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel Update**

### **1. Remit of the Panel**

The overarching purpose of the Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel is to consider “*What difference is Swansea Public Services Board making for citizens?*”

### **2. Key Activities**

Since the last update to the Committee (November), the Panel has held four meetings, as follows.

- 6 December:
  - Public Services Board (PSB) Priorities for 2016/17
- 18 January:
  - Statutory Consultation on Draft Wellbeing Assessment
  - Q & A Session with PSB Core Group Member: SCVS
- 15 February:
  - Q & A Session with PSB Core Group Member: Council
- 15 March:
  - Q & A Session with PSB Core Group Members: ABMU Health Board, South Wales Police, Natural Resources Wales

### **3. Achievements / Impact**

#### **a) PSB Priorities**

The Panel heard from the Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development & Regeneration, the Director – People, and the Head of Planning & City Regeneration on the four priority work streams identified by the PSB as the focus of its work for 2016/17 (Domestic Abuse; Independence of Older People; Economic Development; Good Start in Life). The Panel was particularly interested in looking at the performance monitoring arrangements in place, in order to assist them to assess the difference that the Public Services Board is making for the citizens of Swansea. As a result the Panel made a number of recommendations that would improve the performance management of the projects.

#### **b) Draft Wellbeing Assessment**

The Panel was presented with the draft Wellbeing Assessment as scrutiny is a statutory consultee and made a number of comments that they wish to have taken into account as part of the consultation. The Panel was also concerned about what was being done to ensure the survey reached communities and how this matter was being communicated, as the Wellbeing Assessment may not be the easiest of reads. The Final Wellbeing Assessment is awaited and the Panel looks forward to hearing about the response to the Assessment and how public views have influenced the final report.

### **c) Q & A Sessions with PSB Core Group Members**

The Panel is carrying out Q & A sessions with the members of the Public Services Board core group, in order to consider the contribution each individual organisation is making to the work of the Public Services Board, and achievement of positive outcomes. The PSB Core Group is responsible for: planning the work of the PSB; setting the agendas for meetings; leading and managing the work streams; and reviewing and developing the PSB. The Panel is writing to the Chair of the PSB (Leader of the Council) with views, issues and recommendations following these sessions.

Some of the issues that are being explored include:

- The level of commitment to the work of the PSB
- How pooled funding to tackle PSB priorities is being addressed and achieved.
- How the PSB is monitoring progress against targets and evaluating achievement / effectiveness

Full correspondence between the Panel and the Chair of the PSB, Cllr Rob Stewart, covering the above work is appended to this report. A letter relating to the meeting on 15 March is being drafted.

### **4. Future Work Programme**

The Panel meets on 12 April and will continue meeting with PSB Core Group members by holding a Q & A session with the representatives of the Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service. The Panel will also reflect on the year's work and effectiveness.

Key scrutiny activities for the new municipal year will include:

- Q & A session with the Welsh Government representative on the PSB Core Group
- Final Wellbeing Assessment
- Public Services Board Priorities for 2016/17 – End of Project Update
- Wellbeing Plan

### **5. Action for the Scrutiny Programme Committee**

The Scrutiny Programme Committee is designated as the scrutiny committee for scrutinising Swansea Public Services Board, for the purposes of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Although the committee has set up this Performance Panel in order to undertake this role, the committee is ultimately responsible and therefore it is important that it:

- Receives and consider a regular progress report from the Panel about its work and consider any additional actions as part of the scrutiny work programme as required
- Receives and consider all correspondence between the Convener of the Panel and the Chair of the Public Services Board
- Ensures that relevant Cabinet members are held to account for the work of the Public Services Board through Cabinet Member Q & A sessions