

Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel Update

1. Remit of the Panel

It is a statutory obligation that each Local Authority must ensure its overview and scrutiny committee has the power to:

- a) Review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the Public Services Board (PSB);
- b) Review or scrutinise the Board's governance arrangements;
- c) Make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;
- d) Consider matters relating to the Board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and
- e) Carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.

2. Introduction

The Panel is focused on contributing to the Scrutiny of the Public Services Board by providing a critical friend for the Chair of the Public Services Board and helping to ensure accountability. The overarching question the Panel is asking is: What difference is Swansea PSB making for citizens?

3. Key Activities

The Panel held four meetings between August 2017 and May 2018. There was also a training session in September 2017 looking at the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 and the Wellbeing Plan. This has resulted in three convener's letters being sent to the Chair of the PSB. The main issues covered during the meetings are below:

30 August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of Panel and Work Plan • Wellbeing assessment Overview • PSB Update
13 September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSB/Wellbeing and Future Generations Scrutiny Information Session
25 October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Violence Work Stream Update • Ageing Well Work Stream Update
13 December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Well-being Plan Overview
29 March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Work Stream Update • Welsh Audit Office Conference Update

Correspondence with the Chair of the PSB following the meetings on 30 August and 13 December are appended.

4. Achievements / Impact

The Well-being Plan

The Panel provided scrutiny of the draft well-being plan.

Recommendations were made about Housing, Air Quality and Communities. We felt these should have more prominence in the Well-being Plan; particularly housing which the Panel feels should be very visible in the plan. We feel appropriate, safe and secure housing is the foundation from which the other actions can build on.

The Panel have also suggested that the Wellbeing Plan needs specific activities under the objectives so that organisations are linked to outcomes in a measurable way. This will make it easier to measure success and to refocus resources if necessary.

Work Streams

The Panel have also had presentations about the Domestic Violence, Aging Well and Early Years work streams which are all producing very positive work which we hope will be built upon.

After hearing of the successes in the Jig-so and Penderi Primary Early Years Pilot Project, the Panel also suggested a substantial focus be on mental health, with the ABMU senior managers providing appropriate resources and approaching the subject with a preventative attitude.

5. Future Work Programme

Next year's work programme will focus more on individual organisations and activities under the objectives.

The first meeting will focus on the governance arrangements of the Public Services Board and invite the Chair of the PSB to feedback.

The next meetings will be split into two items. The first item will invite a Public Services Board core member to discuss their views and participation. The second item will invite one of the organisations delivering an activity to feedback on progress to date.

6. Action required by the Scrutiny Programme Committee

None.