



## Public Services Board Joint Committee – 8 April 2021

### Assessment of Local Well-being 2022 Update

**Purpose:** To set out recent developments in preparing for the next Assessment of Local Well-being for 2022

**Link to Well-being**

**Objective:** Cross cutting

**Recommendation(s):** It is recommended that:

- 1) The Joint Committee note the report.
- 2) The Committee note the emerging guidance from Welsh Government and Future Generations Commissioner.
- 3) Pending developments at a regional level, including the proposed regional Co-ordination Board, a 'shadow' Swansea Assessment Editorial Group is established to initially progress the Assessment of Local Well-being.

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and associated guidance for Public Services Boards specifies that the next assessments of local well-being in Wales should be completed by May 2022.
- 1.2 The previous Joint Committee meeting on 11 February 2020 considered a report "Initial proposals for an Assessment of Local Well-being 2022" (item 9), a link to which is attached to this paper as Appendix A.
- 1.3 The report aimed to set out more detailed initial proposals to progress the next assessment. At the meeting, the Committee agreed to support the overall approach and proposals outlined; for statutory partners to nominate representatives from each of their organisations for a proposed Assessment Editorial Group; and to propose other nominees to participate in the Group and/or Research Forum.

#### 2. Recent developments

- 2.1 The following has occurred since the last Joint Committee meeting:

- 2.2 There was a very limited response to agreed recommendations 2 and 3 of the previous meeting, which requested nominations for the proposed Swansea Assessment Editorial Group and Research Forum.
- 2.3 **Regional collaboration:** Following a meeting of Neath Port Talbot (NPT) PSB on 5 March, the Chair wrote to the Chair of Swansea PSB proposing that both PSBs, the Regional Partnership Board and Health Board work together on a joint and common approach to the Well-being Assessments (individually required of both PSBs) and the Population Needs Assessment (required under the Social Services and Well-being Act). The Chair of Swansea PSB has replied in agreement. Copies of the correspondence between the Chairs is attached as Appendix B.
- 2.4 An initial meeting of the Co-ordination Board formed to progress this proposal is scheduled for 16 April. This Board, involving senior representatives from both Councils and the statutory partners (Health Board, Fire Service, Natural Resources Wales) has been set up to provide direction, co-ordination and support for the various assessments required across existing governance arrangements. In the meantime, officers from both councils and the Regional Partnership Board have recently begun to meet more regularly to discuss collaborative working and practical steps to progress the assessments.
- 2.5 **Guidance on the Assessment of Local Well-being 2022:** On 19 March, Welsh Government and the Future Generations Commissioner wrote to all PSB Chairs including an annex document: *Expectations: Public Services Boards and the second round of Assessments of Local Well-being (2021-22)*. The document aims to provide “a clear set of joint expectations. Our focus is on the main areas we consider will go towards providing you with a comprehensive view of the state of well-being in your area.” The letter and annex are attached in full here as Appendix Ci and Appendix Cii.
- 2.6 Whilst these recent developments are positive, and May 2022 may still seem some distance away, experience gained from the previous assessment round suggests that the overall time available to undertake the assessment is in practice more limited. As a result, arrangements are in hand to set up a ‘shadow’ Swansea Assessment Editorial Group, with a view to an initial meeting in late April. This will seek to include Council and partner colleagues known for their helpful input to the previous assessment and other recent PSB work and projects.
- 2.7 **Swansea Assessment draft timeline:** The following outline timeline provides an overall, high-level indication of the key stages likely to be involved working towards the assessment’s publication. However, this current timeline does not reflect any impacts or implications arising from discussions at the Co-ordination Board (see 2.4) for example.
- Late April 2021: proposed first meeting of ‘Shadow’ Assessment Editorial Group
  - May 2021: Editorial Group 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting (*subject to wider developments*) – e.g. to agree overall approach and structure, overall organisation of work required

- June to September: Initial period of evidence gathering, (potentially) via task and finish groups co-ordinated by topic leads with input from Research Forum
  - Late Sep-2021: Editorial Group to consider first draft Swansea assessment
  - October 2021: consideration of draft assessment by PSB Joint Committee (21<sup>st</sup>)
  - November 2021: late refinement of draft, begin Welsh translation
  - Jan-Feb 2022: six-week public consultation period for draft Assessment
  - March 2022: consideration of responses to consultation
  - April 2022: late changes, translation, Joint Committee approval, final publication.
- 2.8 Clearly the steps noted above, based in part on the main stages of the previous assessment round (2016-17), will be subject to approval and potential change over time.

### **3. Next steps / actions**

- 3.1 The Committee approved the overall approach to undertaking the next Assessment of Local Well-being in Swansea as outlined in the earlier report (11 February 2020, see Appendix A); however, there was a limited subsequent response to the request for nominations.
- 3.2 Pending further discussions on regional arrangements at the Co-ordination Board later in April, it is proposed that a 'shadow' Swansea Assessment Editorial Group be established to make initial progress on the Swansea Assessment. This 'shadow' group will be mindful of wider changes in the approach and build in the flexibility to adapt and evolve as necessary over time.
- 3.3 In order to oversee the initial development of the assessment, it is proposed that arrangements for an initial meeting of this group be co-ordinated by the Council's Strategic Delivery Unit, pending any other subsequent arrangements.

**Report Author: Steve King**

**Organisation: Swansea Council**

## **Appendices:**

**Appendix A** – *Initial proposals for an Assessment of Local Well-being 2022*  
Public Services Board report, 11 February 2020. Link below (item 9):

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=665&MId=9237&Ver=4&LLL=0>

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**Appendix B** – correspondence between PSB Chairs, March 2021:

Dyddiad/ Date 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Cllr Andrea Lewis  
Chair of the Swansea Public Services Board  
By email

Dear Andrea,

**Re: Wellbeing Assessment**

The Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board met yesterday. One of the items we discussed was the need for the Board to undertake a second Wellbeing Assessment over the next 12 months.

The Board concluded that it would be helpful if there was a joint approach taken to this exercise across the two public services boards that operate within the Swansea Bay University Health Board footprint. Not only would this reduce the work that those partners participating in both boards would need to undertake - it would also give us the opportunity to share learning and the overall workload. We would naturally expect the exercise to still produce wellbeing assessments for each authority but these would be based on a common approach.

The Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board also agreed that it would be important that this work is co-ordinated with the Population Assessment work that the Regional Partnership Board is to undertake in the same timescale. I am therefore writing in a similar vein to the Chair of the Regional Partnership Board, Emma Woollett seeking her support for this proposal.

I am also aware that my Chief Executive, Mrs Karen Jones, is exploring with senior Health Board officials how this work can be done in a way which would support the Board's responsibility to develop a population health strategy for the Health Board area.

I hope you will be able to support the proposal for a joint approach to the Wellbeing Assessment. I am aware that PSB and RPB support officers have already had some preliminary discussions about the way in which these exercises might be approached but I am sure they would find clear direction from the senior leaders within the partnership arrangements to be beneficial at this early stage of the process.

Yours sincerely,



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**Councillor Rob Jones, Leader of the Council**



Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Rob

Thank you for your letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 regarding the Well-being Assessment and your proposal that both PSBs, the RPB and Health Board work together on a joint and common approach.

I write to agree and am happy to confirm that Swansea PSB will support your proposal for a joint approach to the Wellbeing Assessment so as to avoid duplication and share learning and workload.

I look forward to hearing from you and participating in any discussions between senior leaders on the practicalities of this shared approach going forward.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr Andrea Lewis**  
**Joint Deputy Leader of the Council**  
**Swansea PSB Chair**  
**Cabinet Member - Homes, Energy & Service Transformation**

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**Appendix Ci** (covering letter) **and Appendix Cii** – Welsh Government and Future Generations Commissioner's Expectations: Public Services Boards and the second round of Assessments of Local Well-being (2021-22)

*Attached as separate documents.*