



Blaenau Gwent Public Services Board

To be held: Monday 23rd July (11.00am – 13.00pm)

Venue: Llanhilleth Miners Institute, Meadow Street, Llanhilleth, NP13 2JT

1. Apologies (Chair)

In attendance:

Cllr. Nigel Daniels (Chair)	Leader of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Diana Binding	National Probation Service Wales
Glyn Jones	Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Sian Curley	Police and Crime Commissioner
Guy Lacey	Coleg Gwent
Heather Nicholls	Wales Community Rehabilitation Company
Rhodri Asby	Welsh Government
Joe Logan	Tai Calon Community Housing
Sarah Aitken	Public Health Wales
Jon Goldsworthy	Natural Resources Wales
Marc Budden	Gwent Police
Michelle Morris	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Huw Jakeway	South Wales Fire Service
Martin Featherstone	Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
Sophie Howe (Future Generations Commissioner)	Office of Future Generations Commissioner
Christian Savini	Office of Future Generations Commissioner
Susan Crutcher	Office of Future Generations Commissioner
Bernadette Elias	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (PSB Support)
Emma Scherptong	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (PSB Support) (Notes)

Apologies:

Judith Pagett	Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Julian Williams	Gwent Police
Neil Taylor	Police and Crime Commissioner
Phil Robson	Aneurin Bevan UHB
Nicola Davies	National Probation Service in Wales
Jeff Cuthbert	Office of Police Crime Commissioner

The meeting was conducted with Quorum Status

2. Welcome Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner – opening conversation with PSB (Chair) (30 mins)

Chair welcomed the Future Generations Commissioner Sophie Howe and Support Team to the meeting and invited her to begin opening conversation with the Board. The Commissioner provided feedback on the local well-being plan; provided advice to the Board on delivery of the plan; and how the Board continues to meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

SH congratulated the Board on the publication of its local well-being plan, informing them it was one of the best across Wales. SG provided commendation on the format and design of the plan, in terms of how it demonstrates integration across each of its well-being objectives, and applies the five ways of working.

SH commended the Board on the excellent engagement work undertaken to inform the plan, which has been identified as an area of good practice across Wales. The involvement of local people and communities through 'lived experience' projects was noted as a good approach and it is encouraging that 'involvement' is being considered as part of Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group project, Climate Ready Gwent.

SH provided positive feedback on different Board members leading on different priorities areas within the well-being plan, and that it demonstrated a shift the Board is taking towards taking a collective approach. SH said a key challenge will be to ensure collective action continues to support the delivery of the well-being plan.

SH was encouraged by the Boards intention to develop a culture which moves away from traditional Board practices which by default are formal, process driven and report centric.

SH was pleased to see allocated space for discussion included on the agenda, which promotes opportunities for constructive challenge. SH encouraged members of the Board to use the discussion space to work through key issues, using the lens of the Act. Another opportunity will be to consider how the Board can bring about change, rather than discussing what is already happening. SH outlined two examples where the Board could provide constructive challenge:

- *Collective pooling of resources from across all members effectively;*
- *Effective alignment between individual well-being duties and the local well-being objectives.*

SH said it was good the Well-being Plan had outlined the Boards intentions for working with other regional partnership boards. Developing appropriate arrangements which provide a clear line of sight between National, Regional and Local priorities is important for maximising the well-being of local people and communities.

SH asked if the Board had agreed a Delivery Plan?

BE confirmed that a PSB Well-being Delivery Programme 2018-19 had been agreed.

SH was encouraged to see that the Board was going to use the principles of the Future Generations Frameworks as a tool to help shape delivery. In terms of developing appropriate performance measures the Board was advised to allow for enough time to

undertake a comprehensive review of the broad range of different measures available to them, and to ensure qualitative information is also built in via the lived experiences of local people and communities.

Considering the well-being objective 'Blaenau Gwent wants everyone to have the best start in life' SH informed the Board that undertaking a review of existing service provision was a good starting point. Also the development of an 'Early Years Road Map' was a good proposal. When considering Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) the Board was advised to focus beyond training the workforce, but to challenge whether the existing services in place are fit-for-purpose, and how they can be made responsive to need.

Considering the well-being objective 'Blaenau Gwent wants safe and friendly communities', SH was encouraged by the Boards proposal to use an Asset Based Community Approach. SH advised the Board that the approach should be used to enable local people and communities to know how they can contribute and add value across each of the well-being objectives.

Considering the well-being objective 'Blaenau Gwent wants to forge new pathways to prosperity', SH advised that work needs to take account of the long-term future skills required for the area.

To summarise SH outlined key areas where the Board could continue to strengthen its development. Areas included the sharing of resources, identification of appropriate performance measures for delivery, making sure there is appropriate representation on the Board who can make decisions, and for meetings to continue use of a discussion space as opportunity for challenge and innovation. SH opened up the floor for questions.

GJ thanked SH for the comments and asked if regional partnership arrangements is about good relationships, rather than formal arrangements? If so, are you aware of areas where this is working well?

SH had no specific example, however informed the Board that a paper is being developed outlining concerns regarding the relationships between, for example Public Services Boards and Regional Partnership Boards, Cardiff Capital Regional City Deal and Regional Skills Partnership. SH outlined formal governance structures are required, but asked whether the Board felt the relationships were good and whether information currently flowed?

GL said he represents on the Regional Skills Partnership Board, but outlined Further Education colleges do have concerns about existing arrangements. GL explained the dialogue centres on business needs; however whether the skills assessment for South East Wales is being done in an appropriate way needs to be considered by Welsh Government. Currently the line of sight between regional and local needs of Blaenau Gwent needs strengthening.

SH said she has not engaged with the Regional Skills Partnership Board, but outlined she will be in discussions with Welsh Government to develop a clear line of sight between regional and local needs.

MM suggested the Board considers how it makes a difference by working with Welsh Government to first to understand the complexity of the partnership landscape at a National, Regional and Local level. This will help the Board to identify where there are

gaps. MM thanked SH for the feedback and for reinforcing the way the Board is currently operating, focusing on building relationships.

MF said he represents on the Regional Partnership Board and proposed the Board provides challenge on where Blaenau Gwent wants to be in five years' time. MF asked what does good look like in terms of innovation across Wales?

SH said the Office of Future Generations will be looking to provide proactive support to public services boards and public bodies on how case studies and best practice can be used more effectively. Part of this work entails publication of a report called 'The Art of the Possible' in August 2018. The document sets out how simple changes can be implemented to improve well-being. For example, an experts 'Live Lab' is being used by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to consider how childhood obesity can be tackled. SH confirmed that she is examining what national investment is required to ensure comprehensive support is provided to Public Services Boards.

RA commented that there is iterative development between corporate planning and local well-being plans, each being used to shape each other. The Cardiff Capital City Regional Deal must align with local areas (particularly those from rural communities) as Regeneration has a huge potential to deliver well-being outcomes. RA outlined opportunities where this could be achieved such as procurement, use of local supply, use of the carbon economy and energy sector as future growth areas. Key to success will be for public services boards to consider the long-term as well as strategic policy drivers such as Brexit, and the current and future economy.

SH said consideration of how procurement can prompt local supply chains and create demand is achievable. SH asked the Board to note [The City of Preston](#) as an example of where spend had successfully been increased locally.

SA said she represents on the Regional Partnership Board, and that part of the work is considering the development of 'well-being hubs'. The hubs can be used to understand a wide range of local issues and to direct people and communities to the appropriate support. The development of hub in Tredegar, will not only consider health services, but also the local heritage and cultural estate available to people living in the area.

3. Launch of the Well-being Plan at 'Go Wild' (BE) (5 mins)

BE presented on the launch of the Well-being Plan at 'Go Wild', highlighting the success of the day in promoting the work of the Board.

SH commented that Blaenau Gwent is beautiful and that the natural environment is a core asset which should be the focus for the area, rather than dwelling on its historical past. SH advised the Board to consider what Blaenau Gwent will look like in 20 years' time and to think about how it would develop a visionary statement for the area.

4. Notes of previous meeting (Chair) (10 mins) (papers attached)

a) PSB meeting 26th April notes 2018 for accuracy

Chaired asked for the Board to consider the notes and raise any points for accuracy. The Board confirmed them as an accurate record.

b) Action Sheet from 26th April 2018

Chair asked BE to take the Board through actions currently in-progress.

Action Point 2 – PSB News Bulletin – *BE asked the Board for comment and feedback on the draft. JG liked the format of the bulletin, but felt there was a risk if the editions focus only on one area of well-being (for example, the environment), rather than capture the broad range of delivery areas being addressed by the Board such as Universal Credit, First 1000 Days, Blaenau Gwent on the Move etc.*

MM asked about the proposed frequency for publication and HJ asked what circulation methods were to be used to promote.

BE confirmed that the bulletin will be quarterly and that promotion will be achieved via partners (e.g. websites etc.).

Action: Revised draft of PSB News Bulletin to be considered by SSG, and a copy of the final draft to be circulated to the Board for virtual sign-off.

Action Point 6 – Update paper on Welsh Language Translation Costs

BE gave an overview of the report and noted the recommendations for the Boards decision which asked for collective support to fund Welsh Language Translation and Launch of the Well-being Plan.

HJ said it will be financially difficult to support, but will meet with MM to consider alternative options.

Chair confirmed Boards agreement with the recommendations.

Action: Board to provide funds to support Welsh Language Translation and Launch of the Well-being Plan

Action Point 11 – Maximising opportunities for prosperity, MM and RA to progress discussions

MM confirmed that work was in progress.

Action Point 12 – Foundational Economy opportunities, MM and JL to progress Discussions

MM confirmed a meeting had been held, further discussions to be considered in due course.

Action Point 18 – Update on Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment (GSWAG)

BE outlined Action Point 18 is to be considered as part of the agenda.

5. Blaenau Gwent Well-being Delivery Plan Lead Updates (30 mins) (papers attached)
a) Early Years First 1000 Days Programme (GJ)

GJ thanked partners for the collaborative support provided to plan and deliver the event. The event was extremely successful and well received by a broad range of partners in attendance and information from the day provided a good baseline for what early years services are currently being delivered. GJ highlighted emerging themes which will help inform how services need to be delivered in a more integrated way. GJ outlined that the next step was to undertake a full analysis for submission to the Board in October, and outlined plans to hold a follow-up stakeholder event for partners to feedback on findings.

SH advised that the work links across all areas of the local well-being plan. For example, the well-being objective 'Blaenau Gwent wants safe and friendly communities', commits to supporting Age Friendly Communities and how this could be aligned with intergenerational practices, 'Blaenau Gwent wants to protect and enhance the natural and local environments', linked with play opportunities and the access to green space, 'Blaenau Gwent wants to forge new pathways to prosperity', future skills required and anti-poverty agenda etc.

SA commented that the First 1000 Days Programme currently has an unusual Board sponsor with the Finance Director of the Health Board being the PSB Lead. SA said this demonstrates how the Board is taking positive step changes to work differently in-line with the Act.

Chair confirmed Boards agreement with proposed next steps.

Action: Early Years First 1000 Days analysis report and feedback from follow-up event to be presented to the Board in October.

b) Getting Blaenau Gwent Active and Healthy (SA/EP)

SA gave an overview of the project and outlined recommendations for the Boards decision.

SH said use of the funds was a good opportunity to be innovative and try new things, but advised the Board to ensure sustainability beyond the project is considered as part of an Exit Strategy.

SA said sustainable will be considered as part of the project, along with use of community assets available.

JG noted that a central principle of the NRW Fund is sustainability management.

MF requested sight of the Large Scale Change Evaluation Report and asked if the project will consider use of regional assets available. MF suggested use of the National Sports Wales Strategy, and use of the Healthy and Active Fund (Welsh Government, Sports Wales and Public Health Wales) to support the legacy of the project.

SA said the project will focus on getting families physically active using local mechanisms.

MM requested that the membership of the group is widened to include representation to support schools involvement.

SC requested Office of Gwent Police, Crime Commissioner has representation on the delivery group.

Chair confirmed the Boards agreement with the recommendations outlined within the report.

Action: Large Scale Change Evaluation Report to be circulated to the Board.

Action: Blaenau Gwent on the Move Delivery Group - Invites sent to Gwent Police, Crime Commissioner and Blaenau Gwent Council (Schools)

c) Working together on Universal Credit (JL)

JL gave an overview of the project and outlined recommendations for the Boards decision.

JL highlighted that an inaugural delivery group meeting had been held. A Task & Finish group has been called to develop a Universal Credit Support Directory which is to be presented to the Board in October. Following this, the group will be considering the development of a Universal Credit Risk Register.

SA asked whether the membership of the group was set.

JL confirmed that a place for Aneurin Bevan University Health Board has been allocated to cover mental health and wider issues.

DB asked if either of the probation organisations can be allocated a place on the delivery group.

JL concluded by informing the Board that the work was considering learning from other roll-out areas, such as Torfaen, and that the mapping of existing partnership groups set up to support Universal Credit had been completed to avoid duplication and ensure the delivery group adds value.

Chair confirmed the Boards agreement with the recommendations outlined within the report.

Action: Working together on Universal Credit Delivery Group - Invites to be sent to Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Wales Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Service for Wales.

Action: Universal Support Directory and Risk Register to be presented to the Board in October.

6. Discussion space - Collaborative Ways of Working (MF) (30 mins)

a) Overview of Opportunities for Strengthening Partnerships Structures and Groups for Delivering, with recommendations for PSB

MF gave an overview of the report 'Positioning for the new realities: Defining Partnership Dimensions in Blaenau Gwent' and set out proposals to support the development of Partnership Structures to support well-being plan delivery.

MM asked if delivery groups are being set up in-line with the Boards Well-being Plan Delivery Programme 2018-19 to ensure resources are being used effectively.

BE confirmed that this is the approach being taken, and that the Boards Strategic Support Group would be responsible for providing support and challenge, using the lens of the Act, and the five ways of working, and that updates would be received from delivery group leads.

SA said ensuring appropriate arrangements are in place to meet the Boards statutory duties for discharging community safety issues will be important. SA outlined concerns about integrating the 50+ Network and Armed Forces Community Covenant into the existing partnership structures as she was not aware how established these groups are.

SH said the primary focus for delivery groups is what they are going to do and how they are going to approach things differently. SH supported the use of experts to consider key questions such as 'What are we trying to solve?'.

MM asked whether Terms of Reference are required if we are to move away from process, should the focus be on how we want to work, and how the five ways of working will be applied.

RA supported the suggested role of the Strategic Support Group and PSB conference. RA suggested each of the reports proposals are considered as an opportunity for development.

Chair confirmed the Boards agreement with the recommendations outlined within the report.

7. **Key Information from Regional Working Partnerships and Groups**

(10 mins) (papers attached)

- a) Safer Gwent proposal paper - meeting statutory requirements for Community Safety (JC/NT)

MB notified the Chair that the Safer Gwent proposal is to be withdrawn until the legal basis for the proposals contained within the report is confirmed. MB advised the Chair to defer the item until further notice.

Chair deferred the agenda item, until further notice is received.

- b) GSWAG Updates (BE)

BE gave an overview of the report and informed members that a paper on Climate Ready Gwent proposal had been received that morning which is to be shared with the Board and the Strategic Support Group.

BE asked whether the briefing paper was useful for members.

JG said the paper was really useful and provided a good overview on what is happening at the Gwent level.

HJ asked whether the Happy Communities data could be aggregated to the local level.

BE confirmed that it will be available at the Gwent and Blaenau Gwent level.

SA said that she was leading on Cancer and Health Inequalities and will be presenting a report to the Health Board on the 25th July 2018 for consideration which will help support the Gwent Priorities work.

RA said he was interested in Climate Ready Gwent and the development of lived experiences. Key to this work will be reviewing how resilient our existing public services are.

Action: Happy Communities Analysis to be presented to the PSB when available

Action: Climate Ready Gwent paper to be shared with the Board

8. **PSB meeting** (Chair) *(5 mins)*

- a) Proposals for changes to the agreed PSB meetings for 2018/19

- Monday 22 October 2pm-4pm

- Monday 22 January 2pm-4pm

Chair outlined proposed changes to PSB meeting for 2018/19 and these were agreed by the Board.

9. **PSB Dates for 2018 Diary** (Chair)

- a) Saturday 22nd September – Armed Forces Community Covenant: Reaffirmation Parade and VC Stone for John Henry Williams, Brynmawr & Nantyglo (10.00am to 2.30pm)

BE asked if the Board would like to attend the reaffirmation of the Armed Forces Community Covenant previously supported by the Local Services Board.

Chair confirmed the Boards agreement for invites to be sent.

Action: Board members to be formally invited to the Armed Forces Community Covenant: Reaffirmation Parade and VC Stone for John Henry Williams, Brynmawr & Nantyglo.

b) Gwent Future Conference Autumn 2018

BE confirmed that the Board are to be invited to a Gwent Future Conference in autumn which builds on the work of Ash Futures Wales and will be used to consider how long-term scenarios may have an impact locally.

10. Any Other Business (Chair)

*HJ raised the level of wild grass fires incidents currently being experienced across South Wales. Asking the Board to note there had been 884 incidents **this year [for clarification]**, of which 80% were identified as being deliberate, and of the total number of incidents 15% had occurred in Blaenau Gwent (134 incidents).*

11. Items for information

a) Gwent Strategic Well-being Assessment Group Draft Notes – June 2018

b) PSB Strategic Support Group Notes - May 2018

c) National Assembly for Wales: Equalities, Local Government and Communities Committee (07/06/18) – [Inquiry into Public Services Boards Transcript](#)

d) Welsh Government PSB Bulletin – Spring 2018



PSB Bulletin - Spring
2018 - cymraeg.pdf



PSB Bulletin - Spring
2018.pdf

The Chair adjourned the meeting.