

FUTURE SCENARIOS EVENT

GROUP 1

Headline – More equal Wales
Should be more emphasis on protected characteristics
Too much emphasis on socio-economic aspects
Learn from the Paralympics
Local data sets are needed

Exclusion – What percentage of exclusions are in special schools vs mainstream schools?
Is there a lack of support for SEN children in mainstream schools
Young people in mainstream schools being let down badly

Valley Voices Groups – can feed in by 7th October

EIA – will need to be produced for the document – protected characteristics will need to be included

Differences between communities – most deprived and least deprived

How will we be using data to inform the decision - danger in using all the investment at less prosperous communities, other communities may have hidden issues.
Must be more transformational. Throwing money at the problems historically has not been successful across the board.
More affluent areas vast differences to deprived areas still.

Thinking more creatively – older persons villages, shared living with young people– social isolation and behavioural/esteem issues in the young balanced out.

Recognising that the diversity of our area is one of our benefits - one size won't fit all
Target to particular areas. Don't be afraid to put expected % improvements. Too woolly to be able to measure improvements for some project work.
What do we expect to see for the spend?

We need to rediscover our aspiration for our communities – poor mining communities – fervour for education and community spirit has been lost.
Schools need to lift young people's eyes again to what they can achieve.
Can young people become more involved in their communities?
Can they assist older people – esteem for young people.

Third generation on benefits – we need to teach people they have a responsibility for themselves, can't expect support.

But

They have not experienced this way of living they have been disabled by the system.

People were actively encouraged to go on sickness benefit in the 80s to mask unemployment figures. Has led to generational apathy.

Good teachers working in more challenging schools are key to aspirations and undoing generational apathy.

Enable people to help themselves – value their worth, make them and communities aspirational. Communities regarded as failing are a self-fulfilling prophecy. Change the mind-set.

Once people are empowered or aspire to more often people will move out.

Deprived areas – need to bring in employment income to be spent in those areas.

Don't underestimate the challenge. Big projects in deprived areas often do nothing because of the culture in the community.

Start small big money thrown at projects doesn't always work. 25 year vision needs a cultural change.

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Depends how optimistic we want to be.

Education and employment is key.

Look globally – thriving economies e.g. Asian countries. Target education to areas that will create wealth e.g. IT/Science/Engineering

But

it is wider than blinkered educational targets. Get behind poor attainment. ACE's why are children not achieving. Always an underlying issue. Children's lives at home will affect their quality of opportunity.

Physical accessibility of environment/accessible transport/affordable housing.

Training for frontline staff.

GROUP 2

Quantitative – What are we gathering about whether people feel equal?

7 protected characteristics – are we asking them?

Perception/felt expression

Core studies are needed

Emphasis on socio-economic issues and early years needs more on protected characteristics.

All age groups should be involved.

People who are just above the poverty line living on a knife edge close to slipping into deprivation. We often fail to engage with these groups.

What do we want for our older communities – are we providing sustainable communities for an older population.

Tightening public sector targets will impact our 25 year time frame.

Society's role in addressing areas of inequality is important.

The assessment is just a document it need not provide all the answers.

Community spirit good in some areas but it has broken down in others.

Do people feel equal? Should be the headline question.

Social isolation is a key issue.

Don't spend too much time understanding which WBG things fit into. Concentrate on action.

NB: YP restricted to housing, reducing income, lack of opportunity in housing. Rent caps on Housing Benefit restricting their ability to move on. Can't afford more if education/employment doesn't allow them to fulfil their aspiration.

YP need more housing (shared if needed) access to employment/opportunity/education/training.

Lack of access to services for YP – tensions in the family environment in overcrowded homes.

Not a huge amount in the data about the challenges for young people.

YP have a lack of access to transport – can't access employment as unable to get there. Minimum wage under 25 does not allow them to afford access to employment.

EQUALITY OF ACCESS – housing
transport
facilities
education
communities

How do YP access education in colleges w/o their ability to afford transport.

Divisions between communities/groups with protected characteristics.

Universal wages eliminates so many of these problems. Allows people to work to their ability/capacity they have. Inequality of working wage/minimum wage/benefit difference.

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Community resilience and community cohesion = core economy

Older population –. But the issues are more complex. Health may improve but issues will be different e.g. housing.

Education/employment – access to housing.

All so interdependent on each other, therefore, difficult to separate out the top three.

Enable population – don't disable them – empower

Don't 'do for' our communities – creates dependency and inequalities.

GROUP 3

YP leaving college – image needs to change that Cardiff isn't the end of the world. They don't want to travel to work placement. Only want to stay in their communities.

What is appropriate for work? YP aren't work ready – they are often from third generation unemployed 'I don't have the money to buy clothes for work'.

No aspiration to go out on work placement, difficult to cross the financial barriers.

Biggest number of YP with a lack of aspiration – not inclusive, more concerned with image and local issues than looking outwards and to the future.

Parental ability to enable their children to achieve – barriers are different for different people – parental apathy - they don't care about their children's prospects in some cases.

Peer/cultural issues in teenagers – don't want to be seen to be reliant on their parents input/advice/engagement.

Opportunities to access the environment/green spaces of Caerphilly.

Some communities have a lot of support e.g. Lansbury Park vs Nelson.

Learn from the communities that are helping themselves.

Why are some communities self-sustaining and others are not.

Services are targeted towards lower socio-economic groups

Generational issues – education of children/breakdown in society in large council estates.

Direct link to socio-economic background and risk taking behaviour e.g. fire safety.

Higher vulnerability in poorer communities.

Integrated housing community project.

Engagement and access – have your voice heard – whatever the needs of the individual – support the access for all - people feeling valued.

A lot to do with treading down cultural barriers and cultural attitudes. Aspirations are low, but opportunities are there.

Communities have particular local geographical cultures – some are disengaged.

Voice – YP and people in general – not being ‘done to’

Responsible parenting – role modelling

Community Changes Award in Abertyswg – find the one strength in communities – community empowerment

NB: Faith Communities – Eddie may be able to provide more information

Hostility toward – LGBT communities – bullied in the home environment.

Bullying of the LGBT Community

Emerging issues in relation to Syrian refugees ‘Syrian Refugees Association’.

Tackle isolation and lack of access to services.

Less face-to-face interaction. Social isolation/exclusion.

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We will still be breaking down barriers – engagement to help people feel equal.

YP will grow up in a digital age. They will learn, interact and work in a different way. Caerphilly has invested in good quality libraries they should be utilised.

1. Equality of access to health services – more older people. More specialised services needed in local communities. Too much reliant on family support methods to travel to services to now.
YP can't reach their potential.
2. Employment – living wage – issue of wellbeing.
3. Social equality- sense of belonging/ownership of your community participate in activities. Allow people to live in their own homes, supported living.

