



PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD – DATE 24TH JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD- UPDATE

REPORT BY: KATHRYN PETERS- CORPORATE POLICY MANAGER, CCBC (PSB COORDINATOR)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update the Caerphilly PSB on the progress towards a Gwent PSB and the decisions taken by the G10 Group on the 8th June 2021.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 G10 met to discuss the governance processes that are required to be put in place before it can re-form as a Gwent PSB in September and debated a set of recommendations in a report, appended to this update. This report provides a summary of the discussion and decisions for the information of the Caerphilly PSB.

2.2 This report also requests the continued support of the Caerphilly PSB Board Champions for their delivery areas under the Caerphilly We Want 2018-2023 Well-being Plan, and until such time as a Gwent well-being plan is in place.

2.3 It reminds PSB members of their commitment to the Third Sector Agreement which also runs until 2023.

2.4 It reminds PSB members that the final annual report of the Caerphilly PSB will be in September this year, the delay having been agreed with Welsh Government, and suggests that approval of this is gained virtually before submission.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY AND LEGISLATION

3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 allows PSBs to merge.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 Update on discussions at G10

G10 Recommendation 1- All G10 member have confirmed that the decision to merge as a Gwent PSB is progressing through their internal governance structures.

G10 Recommendation 2- G10 asked that a Vice-chair role be included in the terms of reference of the Gwent PSB. Subject to that amendment the draft terms of reference were

agreed 'in principle' to give some assurance to stakeholders of the existing PSB's that local and regional issues will continue to be supported. The Gwent PSB will formally adopt its terms of reference at the first meeting in September. G10 asked also that the terms of reference of the Local Delivery Partnerships are brought forward to that meeting.

G10 Recommendation 3- G10 agreed a 2-year rotation for the role of Gwent PSB Chair.

G10 Recommendation 4- It was agreed that Caerphilly County Borough Council will host the first meeting of the Gwent PSB and would provide the facilitation for the first 2-year rotation. Membership will expand to include all of the statutory and invited partners along with the Director of Public Health.

G10 Recommendation 5- It was confirmed that a Registered Social Landlord representative and the Head of Strategy and Policy at the University of South Wales will be invited to join the Gwent PSB to represent the housing and higher education sectors.

G10 Recommendation 6- An update was given on the development of the Regional Scrutiny Committee and it was agreed that the decision to create this would be taken through the local authority governance structures. Part of this development is the continued scrutiny of the well-being plans which run up until 2023.

G10 Recommendation 7- It was agreed that the Chair of the newly created Regional Scrutiny Committee will be invited to attend the Gwent PSB as an observer.

G10 Recommendation 8 – It was agreed that one of the first tasks of the Gwent PSB will be to explore its alignment with the other Gwent regional boards, fully understand what statutory duties are being discharged on its behalf, and develop a robust performance management framework for delivery.

G10 Recommendation 9- The G10 group recognised the need for a Gwent PSB identity and website presence. The identity and website will be developed over the next few months.

4.2 **Continuation of the Caerphilly We Want well-being plan until 2023**

Caerphilly PSB members will realise that, while the PSB has dissolved in favour of the creation of a Gwent PSB, there are still two years left to run on the current well-being plan. Actions and activities have recently been updated in the light of recovery from the pandemic and new action plans have recently been agreed. The current officer delivery groups will continue to complete these actions and will report through the Caerphilly PSB Leads group. Performance updates will continue to be logged on the Caerphilly PSB website which will remain in existence until the end of the current well-being plan. Local authority scrutiny of delivery will also continue until the 2018-2023 plan is complete, for example the Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership activity is being reported to Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on the 15th of July.

4.3 Board members are champions for this delivery and should continue in this role until 2023. It is suggested, to maintain this strategic oversight, that current Board Champions will be asked to agreed performance reports before they are logged on the Caerphilly PSB website and will discuss any relevant cross-organisational matters with the other Caerphilly PSB members as necessary, in effect to act as a residual collaborative body. Board Champions will also be asked to agree any reports to local authority scrutiny that relate to their delivery area.

4.4 **The Caerphilly PSB Third Sector Agreement 2018-2023**

The Third Sector Agreement that sets out the relationship between the statutory and third sectors was signed by the Caerphilly PSB at its annual conference in July 2019. This agreement also runs until 2023. Board members are asked to give their continued commitment to this agreement until such time as it is superseded by a regional Third Sector Agreement. Both the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations and Torfaen Voluntary

Alliance will become members of the Gwent PSB.

4.5 **The final Caerphilly PSB Annual Report- Year 2020-2021**

As notified at the last meeting, this report will run up until September 2021 and will lead into the creation of the Gwent PSB. In a similar way to last year Caerphilly PSB members will be asked to agree this report virtually before it is submitted to the statutory recipients, Welsh Government, the Future Generations Commissioner, Partnerships Scrutiny Committee and Audit Wales.

4.6 In the light of the ongoing pandemic and the dissolution of the Caerphilly PSB this year's annual conference has been cancelled. It would not have been possible to hold a physical conference safely and the focus should now be on the Gwent PSB.

4.7 **Conclusion**

The governance processes to support a Gwent PSB are developing and should be in place with no gap between the dissolution of the Caerphilly PSB and the Gwent PSB. Delivery for the existing well-being plans will continue and Board Champions will provide support to delivery leads until the plan is completed in 2023. It is highly likely that the current Leads Group will re-form as the Local Delivery Partnership once terms of reference are agreed by the Gwent PSB.

5. **WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

5.1 Merger of PSBs is permissible in the Act if to do so would further the well-being of future generations. The report to G10, appended, shows the complexity of the regional landscape with many statutory duties being delivered on behalf of member's organisations with no oversight. The creation of the Gwent PSB should streamline these relationships and strengthen the relationship with the Regional Partnership Board.

Progress towards a Gwent well-being plans is also on track and the new well-being plan will include both regional and local activity.

6. **IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 This report is information purposes and to ensure continued delivery. The decision to dissolve the Caerphilly PSB has already been taken by the PSB.

7. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no financial implications

8. **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no personnel implications

9. **CONSULTATIONS**

9.1 There are no relevant consultations

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Caerphilly PSB notes the decisions of G10 set out at 4.1 above.

The Board Champions commit to supporting the delivery of the action areas in the current well-being plan; supporting collaborative activity, agreeing all performance reports, activity, and supporting the local authority scrutiny process until 2023.

The members agree to continue to support the current Third Sector Agreement until such time a regional agreement is developed.

The members will agree the final annual report virtually.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

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Appendices: Report to G10 8th June 2021 and accompanying appendices 1-4