



PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD – DATE 24TH JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ENGAGEMENT AND ASSESSMENT OF WELL-BEING

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Caerphilly Public Services Board with a short update on the Engagement and Assessment work being undertaken to produce the Gwent Well-being Assessment. Work on the Assessment started at the beginning of the year, in anticipation of the new Gwent PSB being in place by September 2021, when it will take on responsibility for ensuring that the Well-being Assessment and Plan are produced.
- 1.2 In a similar way to the production of the last Well-being Assessment in 2017, data is being collected from a range of sources, including from Data Cymru, experts and the communities themselves, to get a fuller picture of what well-being looks like in the area. As well as the Gwent Assessment, local assessments (using the same five community areas used for the last assessment) will also be produced. This will help with the continued development of local initiatives within Caerphilly county borough to address more local issues.
- 2.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act places a duty on Public Services Boards (PSBs) to produce a local assessment of well-being every five years. The next iteration is due to be published by 5th May 2022. The five PSBs in the Gwent region have agreed to undertake the assessment process in collaboration, producing a single Assessment for the whole of Gwent, with local assessments for each local authority area.
- 2.2 During the past six months, officers of the PSB member organisations have been meeting on a regular basis to agree how to produce the Assessment, building on the learning from the last round of Assessments. A timeline has been agreed to ensure that the statutory deadline for production is met. Workstreams have also been established to consider the data analysis and presentation element, the Assessment document, and how best to engage with communities and experts on the findings. The timeline is attached at Annex A.
- 3.1 The Assessment Group has agreed to base the Assessment around the four pillars of wellbeing - social, economic, environmental and cultural, and in addition there will be a section covering any cross-cutting themes. The local Assessment in Caerphilly will include the five community areas used for the Assessment last time and will follow a similar approach. The aim is to produce a report in which information can be easily accessed and linked through a series of hyperlinks.

3.2 Each section of the Gwent document has been allocated to at least two lead organisations, who will develop the initial draft for comment. The table below lists these responsibilities. The local assessments will be produced by each local authority. In Caerphilly's case this will be for the five local areas used for the first assessment in 2017.

Section	Lead organisations
Overview and Executive Summary	Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Torfaen
Social	Caerphilly, Monmouthshire
Economic	Blaenau Gwent, Newport
Environmental	Natural Resources Wales, Blaenau Gwent
Cultural	Newport, Torfaen

- 3.3 The ambition is to have a first rough draft of the Assessment available by the end of June, however delays in receiving the data from Data Cymru may impact on this.
- 3.4 Work on the Assessment, including how the issues arising from the Assessment could impact on the future well-being of communities, will continue throughout the summer and early autumn. It is anticipated that a mature consultation draft will be ready by mid-October, with the formal consultation with Welsh Government, the Future Generations Commissioner and others taking place before the end of 2021.
- 4.1 In parallel with the Assessment Group, an Engagement Group has also been convened with members from each of the key Gwent organisations, to design a consistent approach to engaging on the Assessment across the Gwent region. Again, the group have considered the approaches taken in the previous engagement for the 2017 Assessment, as well as the impacts of the Covid-19 restrictions.
- 4.2 A set of questions have been agreed and trialled with the Blaenau Gwent Youth Forum and the Gwent Police cadets, providing insights into how the questions are perceived. The current question set is included at Annex B.
- 4.3 Organisations have also provided information about the groups they engaged with as part of the production of the individual Assessments last time, with the expectation that links will be made with them again this time. This will also help to ensure that organisations covering more than one local authority area are only engaged with once.
- 4.4 Due to the ongoing restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, much of the engagement will have to take place digitally, and work is progressing to ensure that those who are not digitally literate or do not have access to the internet can still be involved. Materials and methods for engagements (such as social media posts), surveys and virtual meetings are currently being developed.
- 4.5 The initial round of engagement activities is scheduled to take place between July and September. The results of this first round of engagement will feed into the preparation of the mature consultation draft detailed above in paragraph 2.3. A draft report will be produced for consideration by the Gwent PSB at their first meeting in September.
- 4.6 Despite working at a regional Gwent level, there is an expectation that local and community views will form the basis of the assessment and engagement process, particularly around the development of the local Well-being Assessment (which will include the five community areas of Upper Rhymney Valley, Mid Valleys West, Mid Valleys East, Lower Islwyn and Caerphilly Basin).

Annex A – Well-being Assessment timetable

	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	December 2021	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
Agree thematic leads and delivery plan															
Review data in previous assessments (WBA/PNA)		START!													
Prepare first rough working draft															
Identifying and preparing data topics for engagement															
Engagement phase															
Agree data sets to be included															
Data/response analysis															
Identify links between different data sets															
Evaluate information coming from engagement															
Mature consultation draft sign of by PSB															
Consultation draft completed															
Formal consultation															
Amend assessment in light of consultation responses															
Joint Scrutiny															
PSB sign off															
Proofing etc.															
Publish Well-being Assessment															

Annex B – Well-being Assessment Engagement Questions

PHASE 1 to be delivered JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2021

Phase 1 Well-being Assessment

Overview of the PSB, its role, its priorities last time round, what has been achieved, next plan.

1. Are these priorities still important to you; has anything changed?
2. What is special/good about your community / where you live?
3. What would make it a better place?
4. What things are important to you and your family? e.g. places, services, facilities, community groups/activities, how safe do you feel in your community. How can we support and care for older people in the future?
5. What would you like your community to look like in the future? (on-line consultations will need more explanation)
6. How could your community work with us to make that happen?

PHASE 2 to be delivered Summer 2022

Phase 2 Well-being Plan Development

1. Which of these are your priorities?
2. Why is this/are they important to you?
3. Is anything missing?
4. What do you think needs to be done to achieve these priorities?
5. Do you know of anything that's already happening, say in your community, to help make a difference to this priority?