

Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan Performance Report

7 monthly report Oct 2021 – April 2022

Action Area AA6

Natural Environment

Positive Change— working with others to help everyone to understand the importance of the natural environment and how it underpins how we live, work and play.

Positive Start— Creating and maintaining healthy, green, well-connected green spaces and habitats to deliver multiple benefits for well-being.

Positive People— Enhancing and promoting local. natural environments, to help residents be more active and engaged.

Positive Places— Providing a network of connected green spaces to deliver multiple benefits for both individuals and nature.

Kirsty Lewis (Chair of Green Spaces Core Group) and Green Spaces Stakeholders

20/05/2022

Performance Levels

| Performance measures where identifiable | Is there a risk this will not be achieved? |
|---|--|
| Improved access to green spaces in the local community | No |
| Improved knowledge of barriers to accessing green space | No |

| Quantifiable measures | Is there a risk this will not be achieved? |
|---|--|
| Improvement in access to green space in the local community to encourage greater use. | No |
| Improved knowledge and understanding to the barriers to accessing green space | No |
| Community involvement in protecting and enhancing the natural environment | No |

Evidence

| Priority | Comment |
|--|--|
| Priority 1: Targeted improvement of green spaces | A major tree planting and habitat improvement programme, that engages with residents and volunteers to maximise the carbon offsetting, biodiversity benefits and understanding of climate change issues. |
| Priority 2: Grow, cook, eat | Involving people in sustainable local food activity as a way to enhance connection to nature, promote sustainable behaviours and improve health, e.g. increasing allotment provision, involving volunteers, supporting community initiatives. |
| Priority 3: New Recovery Priority Flooding: | Flooding is a key issue in Caerphilly. Green Spaces group to feed into new LDP, Natural Flood Management to be explored alongside engineering works with multiple benefits of Green spaces to be integrated into development for people and biodiversity to benefit all. Policy Planning to be included in Green Spaces Group. |

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| The Green Infrastructure plan | The Green Infrastructure plan for the county borough has been approved. |
| Green Active Travel | Green Active Travel project at Tir y Berth delivered |
| Ystrad Mynach mapping project | Ystrad Mynach mapping project (looking at use of green space and future opportunities completed) |

Key Tasks

| Ref | Task | Progress |
|-----|---|---|
| A | Establish a funding group of PSB organisations to share knowledge and identify opportunities for collaborative projects and funding bids. | Members of Core Group feed into existing Gwent-wide partnerships - Resilient Greater Gwent (ENRaW funded) and Gwent Green Grid Partnership (hoping for ENRaW funding). Also Resilient Uplands project and fed into GSWAG and Area Statement work so the work in Caerphilly is aligned with that across Gwent and benefitting from shared learning and approaching delivery at the right scale. |
| B | Deliver Tree Planting to contribute to 2030 carbon neutrality | Tree Planting Week in March at Ynys Hywel Farm, Cwmfelinfach where a total of 4,500 trees were planted. Further Planting locations are required for next planting season, an exercise will be undertaken to identify sites. This will include the mapping of land holdings of partners and looking at existing data which could be used to identify areas for planting such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The results of this exercise can be used to inform planning for the next 5 years and contribute to meet the 2030 carbon neutral target. |
| C | Implement actions to increase the contribution that the environment makes to the health and well-being of residents. | The GI Strategy continues to help us to spatially prioritise where next delivery should be following on from Tir Y Berth projects. Nature Prescribing Initiative by ABUHB highlights the importance on access to nature, how to become active with what is on your doorstep, accessibility to green spaces and enhancing our environment with the group identifying activity opportunities to feed into local newsletter. |

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| D | Identify and mitigate against flood risk in the county borough | Flooding is a key issue in Caerphilly. Green Spaces group to feed into new LDP, Natural Flood Management to be explored alongside engineering works with multiple benefits of Green spaces to be integrated into development for people and biodiversity to benefit all. Lead Local Flood Authority Team Leader is now part of the Green Spaces Group and the group will be able to feed into the Flood Strategy. A River Restoration Plan has been completed by NRW which includes opportunities for Natural Flood Management and wetland creation. |
| E | Identify the opportunities for PSB Partners to share resources, assets and staff. | Core Group continues to work well in partnership and contribute funding to shared projects especially in relation to the Grow it, Cook it, Eat it project ensuring no overlap or duplication of resources across Local Authorities and identifying opportunities for organisations to work together. |
| F | Identify biodiversity opportunities and habitat creation | A River Restoration Plan has been completed by NRW which includes opportunities for Natural Flood Management, wetland creation, floodplain connectivity and invasive species identification for the River Ebbw. |
| G | Grow, Cook, Eat | Expand existing provision and promotion of Grow, Cook, Eat initiative, support partners involved and link other initiatives such as Nature Prescribing to volunteering opportunities and supporting community initiatives. |
| H | Green Infrastructure opportunities | Seek out local opportunities to “Green” areas. |

Action Areas

Contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals: A prosperous Wales, A resilient Wales, A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, A globally responsible Wales.