

**CYNGOR CAERDYDD**

**CARDIFF COUNCIL**

**POLICY REVIEW & PERFORMANCE**

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**11 October 2021**

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## **Cardiff Well-Being Plan 2018-2023 - Annual Report 2020/21**

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### **Purpose of this Report**

1. To provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider the Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB) Annual report 2020-2021 on the Well-being Plan 2018-2023, as prescribed by the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

### **Background**

2. The Committee has overarching responsibility for scrutiny of the Council's partnership work and has been allocated statutory responsibility for the scrutiny of Cardiff's PSB. Therefore, in line with the Council's Constitution, this Committee undertakes strategic overview scrutiny of the PSB's performance and has the power to:
  - review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the PSB including the Well-Being Plan and Annual Report;
  - review or scrutinise the PSB's governance arrangements;
  - make reports or recommendations to the PSB with respect to the board's functions or governance arrangements;
  - consider such matters relating to the Board as referred by Welsh Ministers and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly;
  - carry out such other functions in relation to the Board as are imposed on it by the Act; and
  - require the PSB or its individual members to attend a meeting of the committee and provide it with explanations of such matters as it may specify.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 also requires that the nominated overview and scrutiny committee must send a copy of any report or recommendations to: the Welsh Ministers; the Commissioner; and the Auditor General for Wales.

3. In addition, each of the Council's five scrutiny Committees has authority to scrutinise partnership activity relevant to their own terms of reference, complementing this Committee's strategic overview of partnership activity.
4. The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires the PSB to publish an annual report of the progress it has made in meeting its well-being objectives. The Act further requires that this annual progress report must be sent to Welsh Ministers; the Future Generations Commissioner; the Auditor General for Wales; and this Committee as the nominated overview and scrutiny committee for consideration and scrutiny.

## **Context**

5. Cardiff Council's Annual Well-being report 2020/21 states that the past 12 months has seen a culture of joint working between the city's public services on an unprecedented depth and scale, led by the Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB).
6. The Council was central to convening a city-wide response to the pandemic and the strengthened coalition of public, private and third sector partners delivered a city-wide response to the crisis. Staff were moved quickly across the public service system to where they were needed most urgently, and new partnership governance arrangements were put in place, under the leadership of the Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB), chaired by the Leader of the Council, to enable rapid and robust decision-making.
7. The continued management of the pandemic and many of the most complex problems facing public services in the post-Covid environment will require the same level of partnership commitment and action. This will include the continuation of the TTP service; the continued rollout of the mass vaccination programme, and the critical role of responding to increased international travel and any outbreaks of 'variants of concern.'
8. Strengthened partnership arrangements and joint working will be required, building on the progress made in integrating health and social care services and responding to the impact of 'long-Covid'; embedding and building upon the new approach to homelessness and rough sleeping; responding to the increase in poor child and adult mental health; increases in family breakdown and a rise in the number of children in

need of support; and a wide range of community safety, cohesion and safeguarding issues.

9. Looking ahead it is proposed that the PSB's Wellbeing Assessment and Plan, and the partnership governance arrangements supporting the Cardiff PSB, are reviewed and refreshed in order to support the continued level of partnership working that will be required.

### **Cardiff PSB Annual Report 2020/21**

10. The Cardiff PSB Annual report is attached at **Appendix 1**. It outlines the work that the Board has undertaken in the last 12 months and the progress it has made in delivering the Well-being Plan and its specific objectives.

11. As part of its introduction, the Annual Report provides a background on the role, purpose and membership of the PSB, which includes Cardiff Council, Cardiff & Vale Health Board, Natural Resources Wales, Welsh Government, the Third Sector, the Fire Authority, and the Police and Probation services. It also explains the purpose of the 5-year Well-being Plan in setting out the PSB's priorities for action and focusses on the areas of public service delivery which fundamentally require partnership working between the city's public and community services.

12. The PSB's Well-being Plan contains the Well-being objectives, the high-level priorities set by Cardiff's PSB, and the specific 'commitments,' or practical steps that the PSB and its partners will deliver together over the next 5 years. The Well-being Objectives that progress is reported on in the Draft Annual Report are:

- Cardiff is a great place to grow up
- Cardiff is a great place to grow older
- Supporting people out of poverty
- Safe, confident and empowered communities
- A capital city that works for Wales
- Cardiff grows in a resilient way
- Modernising and integrating our public services

13. The Annual report is structured using the Well-being objectives as a key section headings and reporting on the progress made against each one. Each section provides a brief introduction about the Well-being objective and the outcomes that it hopes to achieve. For each objective, an introduction explains the challenges it

addresses. A 'Measuring Progress' table lists the city-level indicator results since 2018 and assigns a red or green rating. This is followed by narrative on the work of the PSB to progress the objective during 2020-21.

### **WBO 1 - Cardiff is a great place to grow up – pages 7-9 of Appendix 1**

14. This Well-being objective aims to ensure that Cardiff continues to be a place where children and young people grow up benefitting from its school system and the advantages that the city can offer with its range of leisure, sporting and cultural opportunities. Through the help and support of public and third sector services, the inequalities that have a profound effect on the lives of children and young people can be addressed.

Several indicators for this objective have no data for 2021, for varying reasons and, compared with 2020, areas of concern are the percentage of children in low-income families, and the percentage of year 11 and 13 school leavers that are not in education, employment or training.

Notably there has been a small increase in the percentage of children cycling/walking to school from the previous year.

### **WBO 2 - Cardiff is a great place to grow older – pages 11-13 of Appendix 1**

15. This objective aims to provide a place where older people are more empowered, healthy and happy, supported by excellent public and community services and integrated within all areas of community life.

Data on the outcome indicators for this objective is either not yet available for 2021 or has not been collected in 2020/21.

On a positive note, '*Reimagining ageing into the Future*', the Director for Public Health's annual report 2019, published in 2020, sets out where the PSB needs to place its focus; significant progress has been made with PSB members contributing to the development of Cardiff's '*Working Towards an Age Friendly City*' action plan covering public buildings, housing, transport, community support and health, communication, participation and employment. This work will enable Cardiff to apply to become a member of the WHO's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and

Communities. Following approval of the action plan by the PSB a dedicated *Age Friendly Cardiff Partnership* website is to be launched.

### **WBO3 - Supporting people out of poverty – pages 15-17 of Appendix 1**

16. This Well-being objective is about supporting people out of poverty particularly those in the most deprived areas in Cardiff to benefit from the City's economic growth and improve their quality of life. The outcome indicators that the PSB is seeking to impact in this area show that progress has been made in reducing the percentage of households in poverty, improving life expectancy at birth, and reducing the percentage of adult smokers.

Further improvement is required in housing affordability and there has been a notable increase in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies.

### **WBO 4-Safe, confident and empowered communities –pages 19-21 of Appendix 1**

16. This Well-being objective is about ensuring that local communities are safe, confident and empowered and are able to make use of their knowledge, skills, passion, and creativity to make a positive contribution to society.

The outcome indicators show that in 2021 a greater percentage of people feel safe walking in the city centre both in daylight and after dark. There is, however, more work to be done to address the decline in the percentage of people feeling safe walking in their neighbourhood after dark. Notably the percentage of offenders who re-offend appears to have increased year on year since 2018.

### **WBO 5 - A capital city that works for Wales pages 24-26 of Appendix 1**

17. This Well-being objective emphasises the PSB members' commitment to working together to ensure Cardiff continues to create jobs and attract investment into Wales, is the home of Welsh sport, politics, music and the arts, hosts major international sporting and cultural events, and provides specialist public services for the people of the wider Capital Region.

The report shows that in 2020/21 unemployment has fallen, GVA per head has increased, the number of jobs paid below the Real Living Wage has fallen, the

population qualified to NVQ4 and above is increasing, as is the number of adults that speak Welsh.

Attendance at cultural events, museums and arts events has clearly been impacted in the last year across all levels of deprivation.

#### **WBO 6 - Cardiff Grows in a resilient way – pages 28-30 of Appendix 1**

18. This Well-being objective aims to enable the PSB to effectively manage the impacts of population growth and climate change in a resilient and sustainable way. The challenges of climate emergency and air quality are major long-term challenges for Cardiff as the city emerges from the Covid-19 crisis.

Per capita CO2 emissions in Cardiff continue to fall, however the percentage of municipal waste recycled has fallen to 2018 levels.

#### **WBO 7- Modernising and Integrating Our Public Services –pages 32-34 of Appendix 1**

19. The PSB recognises the future challenges facing public services in responding to rapid growth in population, the changing expectations of citizens, the consequences of poverty and significant and ongoing resource constraints. The response to the emergence of Covid-19 has shown what is possible with unprecedented levels of collaborative working and the switching to the use of technology to ensure the continued delivery of services. The Annual report states this now needs to step up a gear to create a culture of one public service with one purpose - to deliver for the people of Cardiff.

There is just one outcome indicator measuring progress on this objective, it asks the public '*to what extent do you agree that the quality of public services in Cardiff is good overall?*'. Notably the percentage has increased from 65.5% in 2018 to 72.8% in 2021.

#### **Way Forward**

20. In attendance to answer Members questions will be:

- Councillor Huw Thomas, Chair of Cardiff PSB & Leader of Cardiff Council
- Charles Janczewski, Vice Chair of Cardiff PSB & Chair of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Paul Orders, Chief Executive of Cardiff Council.
- Gareth Newell, Head of Performance & Partnerships, Cardiff Council
- Abigail Harries, Executive Director of Strategic Planning Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Fiona Kinghorn, Executive Director of Public Health, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

21. All partners will be invited to comment on the progress that has been made by their respective organisations and in working in partnership to achieve the Well-being objectives identified in the Plan. Members will then have an opportunity for questions to the panel representing Cardiff's Public Services Board.

### **Legal Implications**

22. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

### **Financial Implications**

23. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in

relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- I. considers the information contained within the report and received at the meeting;
- II. agrees whether it wishes to relay any comments, observations, or concerns to Cardiff's Public Services Board.

**DAVINA FIORE**

Director, Governance & Legal Services

5 October 2021