

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

12 APRIL 2023

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### THE WELL-BEING PLAN FOR CWM TAF MORGANNWG

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) of the Well-being Plan for Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board.

#### 2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:
- **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
  - **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
  - **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ("the Act") gives a legally binding common purpose to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of the 7 national well-being goals.
- 3.2 The Act places a well-being duty on specified public bodies including local authorities, local health boards, fire and rescue services and Natural Resources Wales to act jointly via Public Services Boards (PSBs).
- 3.3 PSBs are required to:
- assess the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas (the Well-being Assessment)
  - use that Assessment to set local well-being objectives (the Well-being Plan)

- act together to meet those objectives.

3.4 Changes to the health board footprint created the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board covering Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend local authority areas. It was agreed that the two PSBs covering that area should merge to become a single PSB to reduce duplication and enable more effective joint working to improve well-being for people in the area.

3.5 As a foundation for this change, the Well-being Assessment was prepared to cover the Cwm Taf Morgannwg area and was done in close collaboration with the Regional Partnership Board in the development of their Population Needs Assessment. The Well-being Assessment was published in April 2022 and is available on the PSB webpages: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/bridgend-public-services-board/assessments-of-well-being/>

3.6 Following publication of the Well-being Plan, Cwm Taf and Bridgend PSBs will merge to form Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

4.1 The Well-being Plan has been approved by the shadow Cwm Taf Public Services Board at its meeting on 28th February 2023.

##### **The well-being plan**

4.2 The overarching theme of the Well-being Plan is 'A More Equal Cwm Taf Morgannwg' that drives every aspect of the Public Services Board's work. The Well-being Assessment told us that the communities in Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf have a lot to be proud about. However, not all communities have fair access to opportunities and face different challenges that impact on well-being.

4.3 The Well-being Plan attached as **Appendix 1** has two objectives:

- Healthy local neighbourhoods - A Cwm Taf Morgannwg where our communities are inclusive and feel cohesive and people feel safe, supported and valued
- Sustainable and resilient local neighbourhoods - A Cwm Taf Morgannwg where we understand and respond to the risk of climate change to our communities. To do this we must value, manage and enjoy our green and blue spaces responsibly

4.4 The emphasis of the plan is very much about having a regional framework but focusing on the small geographical areas that are neighbourhoods. Our Well-being Assessment and our experience through the Covid-19 pandemic has shown us how proud local people are of their communities and how important local communities are to their well-being.

4.5 As set out in the Act, how we work is equally important as what we focus on. The Well-being Plan makes five commitments for the way the single PSB will work and these will be the core principles for the PSB that will guide and challenge activity throughout the PSB structure:

- Involvement and citizen voice will shape the design and delivery of the plan. We will maximise opportunities for working in a more inclusive and co-productive way by working with Coproduction Network for Wales.

- PSB organisations are rooted in their communities. Through their size and reach, they can contribute to our local area in many ways beyond delivering services. We will maximise our contribution to improving well-being through using our assets to support communities through procurement, reducing our carbon footprint and as big employers of local people.
- Establishing a regional governance at the PSB that drives local delivery (based on need and improving equity) and campaigns at a national level on behalf of our communities.
- Improving intelligence across the region, agencies and partnerships so that we recognise and build on the many strengths of the area and understand the causes behind the challenges we face.
- We will keep our eye on the future by using systems thinking and focusing on outcomes so that we act in a way that will make sustainable improvements to well-being for future generations.

### **Collaboration and Engagement**

- 4.6 The Well-being Plan has been developed jointly by the two PSBs and in collaboration with partnerships and networks across the Cwm Taf Morgannwg area. Along with the Well-being Assessment that informed the plan it is a product of two years activity by the two PSBs.
- 4.7 The final draft plan was subject to a 12 week public consultation until 10 February 2023. Consultation methods included:
- Online survey
  - Group workshops, online presentation and ‘jamboard’s
  - Attending events, community spaces, forums and engagement opportunities
  - Statutory consultees and internal colleagues
  - Via PSB partners’ media and internal networks
  - Linking back to those responding to the Well-being Assessment consultation and engagement.
  - A Health Impact Assessment through two workshops
  - BCBC Member Information Session
- 4.8 These mechanisms enabled some really good and detailed conversations about what well-being means and how the PSB can act to improve well-being across all four aspects – economic, environmental, social and cultural. These conversations have informed the development and refining of the final plan.
- 4.9 The online survey part of the consultation received 238 respondents
- 88% agreed with the overarching theme – A fairer Cwm Taf Morgannwg
  - 86% agreed with the PSB Commitments
  - Objective One
    - 86% agreed – Findings from the Well-being Assessment are accurate
    - 90% agreed – These are the right things to focus on
    - 85% agreed – This is the right aim
  - Objective Two
    - 83% agreed – Findings from the Well-being Assessment are accurate
    - 87% agreed – These are the right things to focus on

- 79% agreed – This is the right aim
- 121 people provided emails to be involved in future engagement with the PSB

4.10 In addition to the Public Services Board collectively approving their well-being plan, the six statutory partners must also approve the plan for publication. The statutory partners are:

- Bridgend County Borough Council,
- Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
- Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Services
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
- Natural Resources Wales.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1 The Council is a statutory partner for the PSB which is obliged to publish and deliver the Well-being Plan. Partnership working forms part of the policy framework. Once approved by the Council and other statutory members of the PSB, the plan becomes part of the Council's policy framework.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

6.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the development and consultation of the draft Well-being Plan. The full EIA considers the impact of the strategy, policy or proposal on the nine protected characteristics, the Socio-economic Duty and the use of the Welsh Language.

6.2 The outcome of this EIA is to continue with the policy or proposal in its current form as no negative impacts have been identified. The information gathered through the EIA has been taken into consideration in the preparation of the final plan and will inform delivery of the Well-being Plan and future engagement by the PSB. The full EIA is attached as **Appendix 2**.

## **7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications**

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

7.2 The Well-being Plan is prepared in line with the statutory guidance for PSBs. It sets out the well-being objectives and outcomes for the PSB and how the PSB will work towards the national well-being goals.

## **8. Financial implications**

8.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report.

8.2 The PSB currently receives funding from Welsh Government to support collaboration in line with the ways of working in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. This is provided to the regional PSB to work together with partners and partnerships.

8.3 The PSB does not have an operational budget. Bridgend County Borough Council provides officer support for Bridgend PSB.

## **9. Recommendation**

9.1 It is recommended that Council approves the Well-being Plan attached as **Appendix 1** for Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board.

Mark Shephard  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
April 2023

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**Background documents:** None