

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

20 OCTOBER 2021

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Report 2020-21 (**Appendix A**) for Council to consider and approve.

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

- 2.1 The annual report evaluates our progress against our well-being objectives, outlined in our Corporate Plan. This report relates to our performance for the year April 2020 to March 2021 and the well-being objectives for that financial year, namely:

1. **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 focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
2. **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.
3. **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 According to the [Shared Purpose Shared Future](#) statutory guidance (SPSF: 2) for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, individual public bodies must annually review the progress of their well-being objectives and publish a report to assess the extent to which these objectives contribute to the 7 wellbeing goals in accordance with the sustainable development principal.
- 3.2 Under section 15 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and in accordance with the related statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government, the authority must publish its assessment of performance for the previous financial year before 31 October.

- 3.3 In March 2020, the Council published its new Corporate Plan 2018-23, revised for 2020-21. To take account of the impact of COVID-19 on priorities, the Plan was revised and adjustments made, which were agreed at Council in September 2020.
- 3.4 The revised Plan defines 32 commitments to deliver the three well-being objectives and sets out 46 success measures to monitor progress. However, to take account of COVID-19 and redirect resources, targets were removed for 14 success measures. At year-end, data was unavailable for 7 success measures, which are predominantly in education following the Welsh Government decision to postpone exams and use alternative arrangements to determine grades.
- 3.4 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) identified how it would best use its resources to support the achievement of the well-being objectives and statutory duties, including the management of financial pressures and risks over the following four years.

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

- 4.1 The Annual Report, prepared under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, evaluates how well the Council succeeded in 2020-21 in delivering its commitments and planned outcomes for the financial year, using success measures and other evidence.
- 4.2 We made 32 commitments to support the delivery of our well-being objectives. 13 (40.6%) of these were fully completed with 19 (59.4%) achieving most of their milestones.
- 4.3 Of the 46 indicators identified for the Corporate Plan, 25 can be compared against their target: 12 (48%) met their target, 2 (8%) were off target by less than 10% and 11 (44%) missed the target by more than 10%. Detailed information about the Council's performance is included in **Appendix A**.
- 4.4 Welsh Government confirmed the retrospective data collection of Public Accountability Measures (PAMS) for 2019-20 and 2020-21. The collection of this data can be used to assist Local Authorities for benchmarking purposes to inform future planning, rather than for comparative analysis.
- 4.5 A summary of funding and financial performance for the year, regulators' findings and themes that underpin our work are also set out in the report.
- 4.6 This is an important document as it provides citizens and stakeholders with detailed information about the Council's performance against its well-being objectives and outcomes.
- 4.7 Once approved, the Annual Report will be published on the Council's website and shared with stakeholders. Hard copies of the report will be produced and placed in the Council's public libraries.

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

- 5.1 The Annual Report provides an assessment of progress on the Corporate Plan 2018-23 which forms part of the corporate policy framework.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an EIA in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

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

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

## **8. Financial implications**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **9. Recommendation**

- 9.1 That, subject to any amendments by Cabinet on 19 October, Council approves the Annual Report 2020-21 (**Appendix A**).

**Mark Shephard**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**October 2021**

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## **Background documents**

None