

**WEDNESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2021**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE  
**COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** WHICH  
WILL BE HELD AT **10.00 AM, ON THURSDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2021**  
FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE  
ATTACHED AGENDA

*Wendy Walters*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

<b>Democratic Officer:</b>	<b>Kevin J Thomas</b>
<b>Telephone (direct line):</b>	<b>01267 224027</b>
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<b>KJThomas@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</b>

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,  
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP  
*County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP*

# **COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 13 MEMBERS**

## **PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 7 MEMBERS**

- |    |                   |                                   |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Ann Davies</b>                 |
| 2. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Handel Davies</b>              |
| 3. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Colin Evans</b>                |
| 4. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Jeanette Gilasbey</b>          |
| 5. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Betsan Jones</b>               |
| 6. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Dai Thomas</b>                 |
| 7. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Gareth Thomas (Vice-Chair)</b> |

## **LABOUR GROUP – 3 MEMBERS**

- |    |                   |                         |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Fozia Akhtar</b>     |
| 2. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Rob Evans</b>        |
| 3. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Shirley Matthews</b> |

## **INDEPENDENT GROUP – 3 MEMBERS**

- |    |                   |                        |
|----|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Anthony Davies</b>  |
| 2. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Irfon Jones</b>     |
| 3. | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Hugh Shepardson</b> |

# **A G E N D A**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM**
- 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)**
- 4. CORPORATE STRATEGY 2018/23 - UPDATE APRIL 2021** 5 - 48
- 5. SCRUTINY ACTION UPDATE** 49 - 60
- 6. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT** 61 - 62
- 7. FORTHCOMING ITEMS** 63 - 74
- 8. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 2ND FEBRUARY 2021** 75 - 84

This page is intentionally left blank

## Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### Corporate Strategy 2018/23 - Update April 2021

To update the Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives relevant to this Scrutiny Committee.

#### To consider and comment on the following issues:

The adjustment to the Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives adopted in June 2018 to reflect developing priorities and the impact of the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic, Brexit and climate change

#### Reasons:

- It is good practice to ensure our Corporate Strategy is up to date to ensure resources are allocated to priorities.
- Legally we must publish our Improvement Objectives annually under both the Local Government (Wales Measure 2009) and The Well-being of Future Generations Act.

#### To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision

Executive Board: YES (22 March) / County Council: YES (14 April)

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

##### Corporate Overview:

Cllr. Mair Stephens (Deputy Leader) / Cllr. Cefin Campbell (Communities and Rural Affairs)

##### Well-Being Objective Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. Emlyn Dole (Leader)
- Cllr. Linda Evans (Housing)
- Cllr. Peter Hughes- Griffiths (Culture, Sport and Tourism)

Directorates:	Designations:	Tel Nos./ E-Mail Addresses:
Chief Executive / Communities		
<b>Names of Heads of Service:</b>		
Jason Jones	Head of Regeneration	<a href="mailto:JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
Ian Jones	Head of Leisure	01267 228309 <a href="mailto:IJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">IJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
Jonathan Morgan	Head of Homes & Safer Communities	01267 228960 <a href="mailto:JMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">JMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report Author:</b>		
Rob James	Performance Planning & Business Officer	01267 224486 <a href="mailto:RNJames@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">RNJames@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
Silvana Sauro	Performance Analysis & Systems Manager	01267 231955 <a href="mailto:SSauro@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">SSauro@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>

# Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Corporate Strategy 2018/23 - Update April 2021

1. The following sections within the document are **relevant to Community & Regeneration Scrutiny**:
  - Introduction
  - WBO 2 Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)
  - WBO 5. Creating more jobs and growth throughout the county
  - WBO 6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes
  - WBO 7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity)
  - WBO 12. Promoting Welsh language **and culture**
  - Appendices
  
2. **Statutory requirements.** The Corporate Strategy published in June 2018 consolidated statutory planning obligations and brought together a duty to publish Improvement Objectives and Well-being Objectives. By updating the Corporate Strategy, we meet our duty to:
  - publish our Improvement Objectives by the 30<sup>th</sup> June
  - review our Well-being Objectives to ensure they are still valid and current.
  
3. **Good Practice.** Its good practice to ensure that our Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives are kept up to date.

### **What has changed**

4. **Mergers.** Previously we had 15 Well-being Objectives and we have taken the opportunity to merge some to reduce the number to 13.

Old		New	
WbO#	Well-being Objectives 2018-21	New WbO number	<b>Mergers</b> <i>Well-being Objectives Merged for 2021-22</i>
3	Support and improve progress and achievement for all learners	3	Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learners
4	Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)		

10	Support the growing numbers of older people to maintain dignity and independence in their later years	9	Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years
11	A Council wide approach to supporting Ageing Well in Carmarthenshire		

5. **Specific focus for 2021/22.** These priorities will be embedded in the relevant Well-being Objectives.

- Tackling poverty
- Community/social cohesion
- Tackling inequality
- Support for small business as part of wider economic recovery
- Local housing crisis
- Children and young people's welfare and achievement
- Bilingual county
- Net zero carbon
- Rural regeneration
- Delivery of Pentre Awel
- Climate change with a particular focus on flooding

6. **Renaming.** To reflect the focus of a well-being objective it has been renamed as below:

WbO#	Well-being Objective 2018-21	New WbO number	Re-titled for 2021-22
9	Supporting good connections with friends and family and safer communities.	8	Supporting Community Cohesion and Resilience

7. We will be consulting on the Well-being Objectives as part of budgetary consultation.

8. Department and Service business plans will be aligned to support the delivery of the Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives. Key actions and targets will be identified, and their delivery monitored quarterly

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **Jason Jones Head of Regeneration**

**Ian Jones Head of Leisure**

**Jonathan Morgan Head of Homes & Safer Communities**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

## 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Our key strategic policies are addressed throughout our Well-being Objectives

Crime and disorder are identified and addressed through the *Well-being Objective 8*:

Equality implications are addressed within the Well-being Objective 13: Better Governance and Use of Resources

## 2. Legal

The law states that:-

- a) We must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The sustainable development principle is
  - '... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'*
- b) We must demonstrate 5 ways of working:
  - Long term, integrated, involving, collaborative and preventative
- c) We must work towards achieving all of the 7 national well-being goals in the Act. Together they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards.
  - 1. A prosperous Wales
  - 2. A resilient Wales
  - 3. A healthier Wales
  - 4. A more equal Wales
  - 5. A Wales of cohesive communities
  - 6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
  - 7. A globally responsible Wales



### **3. Finance**

We need to continue to strengthen the links between Strategic and Financial Planning. The Act requires the publication of a statement detailing how a public body proposes to ensure that resources are allocated annually for the purpose of taking such steps to meet the well-being objectives. Para 53 SPSF 1

### **4. ICT**

ICT implications are being taken forward within our Digital Transformation Strategy and feature within the *Well-being Objective 13*

### **5. Risk Management Issues**

Our key strategic risks are identified and addressed within Service Business Plans that underpin our Well-being Objectives

### **6. Physical Assets**

The key strategic Asset Management Plan incorporates our Well-being Objectives, Capital prioritisation takes into account the Objectives.

### **7. Staffing Implications**

People Management Strategy issues are identified in Well-being Objective 13

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Jason Jones Head of Regeneration**

**Ian Jones Head of Leisure**

**Jonathan Morgan Head of Homes & Safer Communities**

## 1. Scrutiny Committee

Scrutiny Committee	Date	Outcomes
Community and Regeneration	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	
P+R	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	
Environment and Public Protection	5 <sup>th</sup> March	
Social Care and Health	11 <sup>th</sup> March	
Education and Children's Services	17 <sup>th</sup> March	

## 2. Local Member(s)

NA

## 3. Community / Town Council

NA

## 4. Relevant Partners

NA

## 5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

NA

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Include any observations here**

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales ) Act 2015		<a href="#">The Essentials Guide</a>
Shared purpose:shared future Statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales ) Act 2015		<a href="#">SPSF 1 Core guidance</a> <a href="#">SPSF 2 Individual Role (public bodies)</a>
Local Government Measure (2009)		<a href="#">Local Government Measure (2009)</a>
Moving forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years		<a href="#">Moving forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years</a>
Corporate Risk Register		<a href="#">Risk-with score 16+ (October 2020)</a>
Budget Consultation on Well-being Objectives		<a href="#">Consultation Top 5</a>
Community Impact Assessment -Coronavirus Covid-19 September 2020		<a href="#">Link</a>
The Auditor Generals for Wales - 4 challenges to public sector 2020-25		<a href="#">Audit Wales</a>
Future Generations Commissioner <a href="#">Post COVID-19 – 5 recommendations</a> to public bodies		<a href="#">Post COVID-19 –5 recommendations</a>
8 <a href="#">Welsh Government Reconstruction Priorities</a>		<a href="#">Full document</a>

This page is intentionally left blank

# Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire

The Council's Corporate Strategy 2018-2023

Updated April 2021



'Life is for living, let's start, live and age well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment'

[carmarthenshire.gov.wales](http://carmarthenshire.gov.wales)

Cyngor **Sir Gâr**  
**Carmarthenshire**  
County Council



Page 13

# Contents

	Page
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Carmarthenshire's Well-being Objectives</b>	
<b>Start Well</b>	1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences <b>8</b>
	2. Help children live healthy lifestyles <b>9</b>
<b>Live Well</b>	3. Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learners <b>10</b>
	4. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of those living in poverty <b>12</b>
	5. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county <b>13</b>
	6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes <b>15</b>
	7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity) <b>16</b>
	8. Support community cohesion, resilience & safety <b>17</b>
<b>Age Well</b>	9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years <b>19</b>
<b>In A Healthy, Safe &amp; Prosperous Environment</b>	10. Look after the environment now and for the future <b>22</b>
	11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity <b>23</b>
	12. Promote Welsh Language and Culture <b>24</b>
<b>Corporate Governance</b>	13. Better Governance and use of Resources <b>26</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>28-36</b>

## Update News in Brief...

1. We last published an update in June 2019
2. We published an Annual Report on 2019/20 in October 2020
3. We published a Community Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in September 2020 and this has informed our approach
4. We have reviewed the Well-being Objectives and will consult upon them as part of budget consultation
5. We have amalgamated some Well-being Objectives and tweaked the names of some - *Appendix 1*

# Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years

In January 2018, Carmarthenshire County Council's Executive Board presented its key aspirations for the next 5 years – *'Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years'*.

Given this direction, the Council published a Corporate Strategy that consolidated and aligned our plans and we have kept this strategy up to date over the last few years. This document is a refresh of the previous update of July 2019. It is important to keep our plans updated and it is a statutory requirement.

## Further Challenges Facing the Council

The impact of COVID-19, Brexit uncertainty and climate change are all unprecedented challenges that we now face in addition to other pressures. Our strategic plans must take account of the challenges that we face most of which are driven by factors outside of the Council's control. However, they are factors that we have to consider as we develop and, in some instances, change the way that we work and do things. Below is an outline of key challenges.

1. The impact and recovery of the Coronavirus pandemic
2. Developing a dynamic economy in the context of Brexit
3. Addressing a climate emergency
4. Acting in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (WbFG principle)
5. Increasing demand and complexity for services
6. Increasing expectations of provision at the same time as managing tightening budgets
7. Challenging economic position and support for local economy
8. Increasing need to strengthen the digital infrastructure and support digital inclusion for individual residents as well as public, private and third sector organisations looking to develop economic prosperity.
9. To understand our ways of working and how customer expectations have changed
10. Changing demographic profile of the county and in particular its ageing population
11. Increasing risks to ensure children and young people are protected from harm
12. Increasing deprivation and poverty with growing inequities between communities
13. Increasing legislation and regulation from Welsh Government
14. Managing the workforce risks associated with the pace of change required by the organisation.
15. New requirements as a result of the Local Government and Elections Act.
16. Welsh Government priorities may change as a result of Senedd elections

## The impact of COVID-19

In September 2020 we published a [Community Impact Assessment of COVID-19](#).

This initial period of response was an enormous challenge and the organisation pulled together in a crisis to ensure that we supported our residents and communities. It saw the best of us in commitment, conscientiousness, compassion, and creativity for the well-being of our communities. The Pandemic continues and we are still adapting to ensure continued provision of services. This will be an on-going challenge and although there is now hope with the vaccine being rolled-out that the end is in sight for the initial crisis the challenges and need to find new ways of working for the longer-term will continue.

To make sure that we learn from this unprecedented experience as we reintroduce our services and re-set our strategic and operational priorities, we have been identifying our key learning points at an organisational level and across the breadth of our services. One thing is evident, we cannot and will not be returning to the pre COVID-19 "status quo". This learning will shape and reset our Well-being Objectives.

# The Council's Core Values

In delivering this strategy it is important that we maintain our core values in everything we do:-



## Equality and Diversity

Carmarthenshire County Council has developed a [Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24](#).

This strategic plan sets out the principles of our commitment to equality and diversity as well as outlining our objectives and how we intend to fulfil our responsibilities and ensure that we follow our principles through into practice. These objectives focus on:

1. Being a leading employer
2. The needs and rights of people with Protected Characteristics shaping the design of services
3. Safe and Cohesive communities that are resilient, fair and equal
4. Improving access to our services and access to our environment.

We will fulfil these objectives ensuring we fully take account of our duty under the Equality Act 2010 to the following **protected characteristics**:

- Age
- Race
- Sex
- Disability
- Religion and belief
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity

## Bringing Plans together

**This Corporate Strategy consolidates the following requirements and plans into one document:**

1. It incorporates our Improvement Objectives as required by the Local Government Measure 2009 (See *Appendix 2*)
2. It includes our Well-being Objectives as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Our Well-being Objectives are set to maximise our contribution to the shared vision and set of national goals that all public bodies work towards (See *Appendix 2*)
3. It includes Carmarthenshire County Council's Executive Board key projects and programmes for the next 5 years as set out in '*Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years*'.



## Delivering on our Plans

We have set out the steps we will take to *deliver* each objective. These steps, and the way we work will be supported by actions and targets set out in Service Business Plans.

The '*delivery plans*' behind each Well-being Objective will be monitored quarterly and scrutinised. We will report annually on progress.

We have set out how we will measure our success against our Well-being Objectives in *Appendix 5*.

The Council's Vision can be summed up as follows.....

# 'Life is for living, let's start, live and age well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment'



## Well-being Objectives

1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences.

2. Help children live healthy lifestyles.

3. Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learner.

4. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, helping people into work and improving the lives of those living in poverty.

5. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county.

6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes.

7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity).

8. Support community cohesion, resilience & safety.

9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years.

10. Look after the environment now and for the future.

11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity.

12. Promote Welsh language and culture.

13. Better Governance and Use of Resources

# Start Well





## Well-being Objective 1

Start Well - Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences

### So why is this important?

- Giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing inequalities across the life course.
- Children who experience stressful and poor-quality childhoods are more likely to experience poor mental health and develop long term health problems as they move into adulthood.
- What happens during these early years has lifelong effects on many aspects of health and well-being - from obesity, heart disease and mental health, to educational achievement and economic status.
- There is a growing recognition of the detrimental impact which exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences in childhood, particularly multiple ACEs, can have upon physical and mental health and well-being, relationships with others, educational attainment and prosperity outcomes into adulthood.
- Looked After Children (LAC) are more likely to have been exposed to high rates of **Adverse Childhood Experiences** (ACE's) associated with poor long term outcomes before entering care.



### Why this should concern us?

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have harmful impacts on health and well-being across the life course. For every 100 adults in Wales, 47 have suffered at least one ACE during their childhood and 14 have suffered 4 or more. Children who experience stressful and poor-quality childhoods are more likely to adopt health harming behaviours. (*National Survey of ACE's in Wales*)
- Children in workless households are more likely to experience ACE's. 8.7% of children in Carmarthenshire are living in workless households, this is lower than the 2017 figure of 10.2% and is currently below Wales (12.6%) and the UK (10.5%).
- In Carmarthenshire there are currently 70 children on the Child Protection Register, 148 Looked After Children and 839 children in receipt of care and support (@ 14/12/20).

### What do we need to do?

- We need to give every child the best start in life and ensure development throughout early childhood.
- We need to build resilience against adverse experiences.
- We will ensure that children with complex needs and disabilities and their families get the right support to enable them to participate as fully as possible in their communities.

### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will support families by:**
- a. working together to reduce the number of children who suffer ACEs.
  - b. working together to reduce the number of children who need to be in the care of the Local Authority.
  - c. promoting bonding and attachments to support positive good parent-child relationships.
  - d. better equipping parents and care-givers with the necessary skills to avoid ACEs arising within the home environment and encourage development of social and emotional well-being and resilience in the child.
  - e. identifying and intervening where children may already be victims of abuse, neglect or living in an adverse environment.
  - f. continuing to provide attachment awareness training in schools to ensure they become *attachment awareness schools* and are able to meet the emotional well-being needs of vulnerable children.
- B. We will ensure that every child with identified **additional learning needs (ALN)** in all Carmarthenshire schools will have access to appropriate integrated support services – e.g. Educational and Child Psychology, Sensory Impairment Service support, Specialist Advisory Teacher and Teaching Assistant support, Behaviour Support Community Team and access to family support through Family Liaison Officers.**



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Glynog Davies

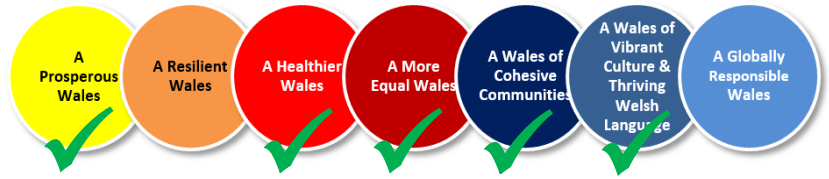


## Well-being Objective 2

### Start Well - Help children live healthy lifestyles

#### So why is this important?

- Projections suggest an increase in trends for childhood obesity with figures showing males between the ages of 2 – 15 being at greatest risk.
- Assessment engagement activity with primary school children showed being physically active to be the second most important factor for positive well-being of children aged 6 – 11, after connections with family and friends.
- Living healthy lives allows children to fulfil their potential and meet education aspirations.
- Habits established early in life remain with people to allow them to play a full part in the economy and society of Carmarthenshire.



#### Why this should concern us?

- Carmarthenshire has the 12<sup>th</sup> highest levels of childhood obesity in Wales with 26.6% (492) of 4-5 year olds being overweight or obese, just above the Welsh average of 26.4%. *Child Measurement Programme for Wales 2017/18*
- Engagement with primary schools identified a strong link between physical activity and opportunities to play in outside spaces, and to feel safe in that environment.
- Mental health disorders in children and young people are equally as prevalent, with 1 in 10 children and young people aged five to sixteen suffering from a diagnosable mental health disorder. Between the ages of one to twelve, 1 in 15 young people deliberately self-harm.

Source: - *Our Health Our Future, Hywel Dda Interim Integrated Medium Term Plan 2016/17 - 2018/19 (page 56)*

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to work with partners to ensure children across Carmarthenshire: eat healthily, are physically active and maintain good mental health.
- We will address the Wales Audit Office recommendations following their review of this Well-being Objective under the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.
- We need to measure activity through schools.

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will increase the range of **physical activity** opportunities available for children, and target those at higher risk of inactivity.
- B. We will **address mental health** including reducing exposure to adverse childhood experiences.
- C. We will **promote eating healthy**, including through school meals, the *Healthy Schools scheme* and the *School Holiday Enrichment Programme*.
- D. We will **increase awareness** of healthy lifestyles through the Healthy Schools scheme.
- E. We will continue to develop, promote and deliver the **Flying Start Programme**.
- F. We will work with partners to deliver the Early Years Transformation Programme.
- G. We will develop a multi-agency strategy and delivery plan to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Glyn Davies

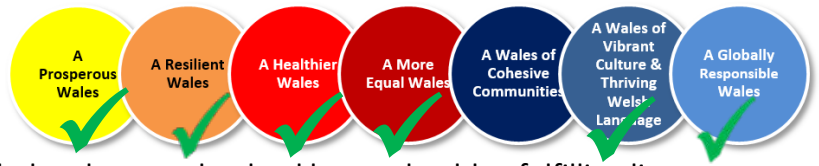


## Well-being Objective 3

### Start Well - Support and improve progress, achievement and outcomes for all learners

#### So why is this important?

- We all want all of our children and young people to have the best possible start in life by supporting them to gain the skills and knowledge they need to lead happy, healthy, fulfilling lives.
- We want to improve outcomes for all ages through lifelong learning, to enable them to thrive in 21<sup>st</sup> Century living and the world of work.
- Research by *The Institute of Education* suggests that attending a good pre-school and primary school can have more impact on children's academic progress than their gender or family background (Taggart, 2015)
- Our service remains committed to both the principles and priorities as outlined in the Welsh Government's most recent strategic document '[Education in Wales: Our National Mission.](#)'



#### Why this should concern us?

- There is currently a gap nationally (including Carmarthenshire) between the performance of vulnerable pupils including those eligible for free school meals (eFSM) and those who are not. This aspect of our end of key stage performance and achievement continues to challenge and concern us.
- We have a number of schools that have identified key areas of improvement through the means of their annual self-evaluation processes.
- Outcomes of international comparison activities continue to show Wales adrift from the rest of the UK.
- OECD Reports monitoring the Welsh Government's curriculum review programme acknowledges that whilst substantial progress has been achieved there are aspects to address in [specific areas](#)

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to ensure that all children and young people in Carmarthenshire have the best possible opportunities to study, train and gain worthwhile employment locally, regionally or nationally.
- We will ensure that all vulnerable learners including those with a disability or additional learning needs are fully included in all learning programmes.
- We will continue to further improve progress, well-being and outcomes for all learners with a focus on those who are vulnerable including those entitled to eFSM and - see also *Tackling Poverty Well-being Objective 4*.

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will ensure a relentless emphasis on **improvement in pupil progress, well-being and outcomes** for all children and young people across all learning phases (focusing on vulnerable and eFSM learners) in line with the vision and aims of '*Education in Wales: Our National Mission.*'
- B. We will continue to **address low school attendance** and learner well-being.
- C. We will provide **an excellent school in the right place.**
- D. We will continue **workforce development and succession planning.**
- E. We will continue the **development of Welsh in all our services**, thus moving towards ensuring that every pupil is confidently bilingual.
- F. As part of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum development, we will focus on skills demands and employability of new and existing labour market entrants to ensure that local and regional demands are met.
- G. We will implement the **Youth Engagement and Progression Framework** to support vulnerable learners.
- H. We will ensure continuation of planning and delivery for **externally funded projects.**



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Glynog Davies

# Live Well



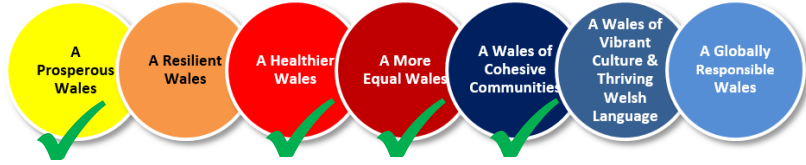


## Well-being Objective 4

Start Well/Live Well - Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work & improve the lives of those living in poverty

### So why is this important?

- Poverty and deprivation have serious detrimental effects across all aspects of well-being. It limits the opportunities and prospects for children and young people, damages the quality of life for families and communities.
- Poverty can be a barrier to full participation in society and is too often an intergenerational experience which poses a significant threat to experiencing positive well-being both now and in the future.



### Why this should concern us?

- 33.8% (27,691) of households in Carmarthenshire can be defined as **living in poverty**, 13<sup>th</sup> highest in Wales (Welsh average 32.9%). *Welsh Government defines poverty as when "household income is less than 60% of the GB median income". This means a household where income is less than £19,967 a year (2020 - 60% of £33,278).*
- We have a new statutory Socio-Economic Duty to reduce inequalities of socio-economic disadvantage.
- The COVID-19 Pandemic may have impacted more significantly on the most deprived communities.

### What do we need to do?

- We need to better understand the challenges facing our county and develop a focused plan to respond accordingly. We will need to look at this in the round across the spectrum of Council and partner services with a focus on key geographical areas (akin to the current programme of work in Tyisha) and population groups who face particular disadvantages.
- We need to **prevent poverty** – there is a strong correlation between being born poor and experiencing a lifetime of poverty and many of the triggers of poverty experienced in childhood and later life are preventable if identified and addressed in a timely manner. Providing early, targeted, and holistic interventions can therefore help reduce the likelihood of poverty occurring in our communities.
- We need to **help people into work** - work is one of the most fundamental and effective means of tackling poverty in all its forms. Work provides income and opportunities for improved health and well-being.
- We need to **improve the lives of people living in poverty** by supporting those in poverty and improving access to help to maintain basic standards of living.

### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will undertake a fundamental review of our approach to Tackling Poverty and prepare a cross-departmental Council action plan to respond to key issues relating to poverty, rural poverty and child poverty. We will discuss this further with relevant stakeholders and Carmarthenshire PSB members
- B. Our children and education services will work to **prevent poverty** through delivering key early intervention programmes such as flying start and team around the family (TAF), and ensure that financial literacy is on the school curriculum. In addition, services such as housing will take a more proactive, preventative approach to addressing key triggers of poverty to prevent escalation of issues such as homelessness and fuel poverty.
- C. We will **help people into work** by building their confidence and skills through the dedicated Communities 4 Work and Communities 4 Work Plus programmes and targeted support for those who are furthest from the labour market e.g. those who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). We will continue to extend the Hwb model as a one stop shop for employment advice and support.
- D. We will **improve the lives of those living in poverty** through promoting and supporting greater financial literacy via services such as trading standards and housing benefits. We will also deliver initiatives to support key vulnerable groups including the School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP), Toy Box & Hamper appeal (**Rural Poverty** – see also Well-being objective 5c)



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Cefin Campbell



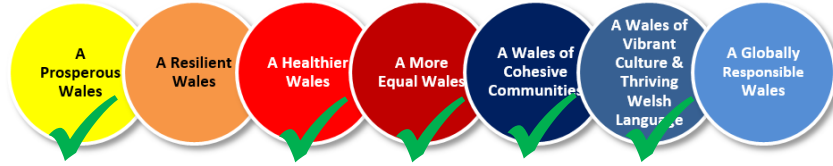


## Well-being Objective 5

### Live Well - Create more jobs and growth throughout the county

#### So why is this important?

- Providing secure and well-paid jobs for local people is central to everything we are seeking to achieve.
- Increasing employability is fundamental to tackling poverty, reducing inequalities and has a dramatic impact on our health and ability to function in everyday society.



#### Why this should concern us?

- As at March 2020, of the 71.5% of Carmarthenshire's workforce, 60.7% were employed in the professional/technical/skilled trade occupations - well *below* the Welsh average of 63.8%, whilst 39.2% were employed in the caring/leisure/customer service/machine operative occupations – well *above* the 35.8% Welsh average.
- We must tackle a GVA (gross value added) gap that is widening between UK GVA and Wales GVA; Total GVA in Carmarthenshire represents 4.8% of Wales total GVA, which is a relatively high share. However, GVA per job is low (£44,833), ranking 18<sup>th</sup> out of 22 authorities, indicating low productivity. *GVA is the measure of the value of the wages and profits from goods and services produced in an area.*
- The economy of Carmarthenshire has been badly affected by COVID-19 in 2020, and the employment impacts are likely to get worse in 2021. We will develop and implement a business and economy recovery plan that will enable the authority and our key partners to co-ordinate and target available resources to contain the scale of the likely economic downturn and to stimulate demand and confidence during the recovery, ensuring that Carmarthenshire's economy can recover as quickly as possible to become one which is more productive, more equal, greener, and with healthier and more sustainable communities.
- We must also strengthen the foundational economy with a particular emphasis upon developing a progressive procurement principle and supporting businesses to become more productive and able to pay higher wages.

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to build a knowledge-rich, creative economy by maximising employment and training places for local people through creating jobs and providing high quality apprenticeships, training and work experience opportunities, in order to have an on-going skilled and competent workforce to face the future
- We need to evolve Carmarthenshire's position in the Swansea Bay City Region (Swansea, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Neath Port Talbot) into a confident, ambitious and connected county.
- We need to continue to invest in our local rural infrastructure, including transportation to attract businesses, tourism/leisure to the county to promote economic growth and activity by building better connections and generating a strong tourism industry (see *Improving highway & transport infrastructure & connectivity* WBO13)
- We need to continue to invest in the strategic regeneration of our 3 principal towns, 10 rural market towns, key strategic employment sites and continue to support business growth.
- We need to support Welsh Government's - [Prosperity for All-the National Strategy: Economic Action Plan](#)
- Monitor the impact of Brexit on the economy of Carmarthenshire, so we can mitigate any problems and embrace all opportunities which may arise
- We need to address the issues facing rural communities as identified in the [Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward](#) report
- We will support those everyday businesses that are all around us and are the foundation of our economy.
- We will look to support and upscale our grounded businesses as part of our COVID-19 recovery plan, through strengthening local procurement and supply chains, supporting business diversification, upskilling and the development of fit for purpose premises for businesses to grow and flourish.

- A.** Regionally, by co-ordinating and delivering the Swansea Bay City Deal and specifically the Carmarthenshire based project of Pentre Awel
- B.** Locally, by delivering the 6 Transformational Strategy Area Plans targeting urban, coastal and rural Carmarthenshire
- C.** To develop the rural economy of Carmarthenshire in line with the emerging Rural Vision for Wales and the Council's Rural Action Plan. There will be a particular focus on the 10 Towns Initiative
- D.** To strengthen the foundational economy and community resilience. There will be a particular emphasis upon developing a progressive procurement principle and supporting businesses to become more productive and able to pay higher wages
- E.** By developing learning, skills, employability and encouraging a spirit of entrepreneurship throughout the county to support new businesses in the county (Regional Learning & Skills Partnership)
- F.** By ensuring clear business support plans in order to support any implications from Brexit
- G.** By supporting local and digital economic growth
- H.** Continue the Council's own recruitment of graduates and apprentices.



**Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Emlyn Dole (Leader)**



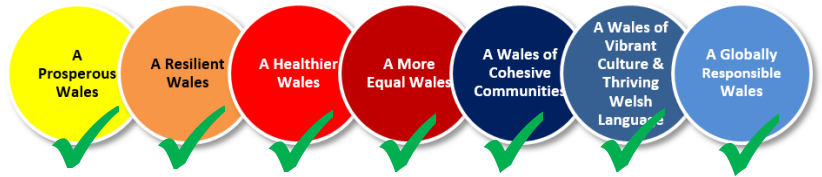


## Well-being Objective 6

### Live Well - Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes

#### So why is this important?

- Good quality affordable homes promote **health and well-being**, meeting the individual needs of the residents, building strong sustainable communities and places where people want to live.
- Good quality energy efficient affordable homes are good for the **People and the Environment** - as the energy use within the home will be reduced, having a significant effect on reducing the fuel costs for the occupying residents. It will also have a significant effect on reducing pollutants in the atmosphere and mitigating fuel poverty in our communities.
- It's good for the **Social Structure** - well-placed affordable housing developments allow communities to welcome a wide range of families and to create a vibrant, diverse, group of residents. This is true for rural and urban areas.
- It's good for the **Economy** - in order to thrive, new businesses need easy access to its workforce. Affordable housing developments ensure that working families will remain in their community.



#### Why this should concern us?

- People told us during our consultation on affordable Housing in 2015 that we need to:
  - Target help where the need is highest, in both urban and rural areas, by delivering more affordable homes for rent and buy.
  - Be more flexible - whether by bringing wasted homes back into use, buying existing homes or building new ones.
  - Do whatever it takes by developing innovative and creative ways to deliver more homes.
  - Use our resources in the best possible way to ensure as many new homes as possible.
  - Use the expertise, skills and resources of those we work with.

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to provide additional affordable homes to meet the needs of residents in Carmarthenshire.
- We need to build new council homes across the County.
- We need to actively work with private landlords to encourage them to make their properties available at affordable rental levels, including bringing more private sector homes into the management of our in-house 'Simple Lettings Agency'.
- We need to work in partnership with Housing Associations in Carmarthenshire to maximize the supply of new build affordable homes.
- We need to actively work with property owners to bring empty homes back into use.
- We need to purchase homes from the private sector and increase the Council Social Housing stock.
- We need to maximize the number of affordable homes delivered through developer contributions from the planning system.
- We need to maximize all funding opportunities for both the Council and Housing Associations.

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will deliver all of the above through our [Affordable Homes Delivery Plan](#) and the Council's new build programme. Our plans to increase the supply of affordable homes to buy and rent will have a huge impact on the health, economic, social and cultural well-being of the County. We will also continue to bring empty homes back into use to increase choice and provide the right type of home in the right areas.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Linda Evans

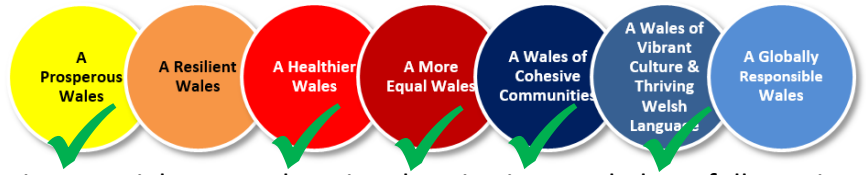


## Well-being Objective 7

### Live Well - Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity)

#### So why is this important?

- Our way of life is changing, people are living longer with a higher quality of life.
- The challenge is to prevent ill health.
- Living healthy lives allows people to fulfil their potential, meet educational aspirations and play a full part in the economy and society of Carmarthenshire.
- Many of the preventive services and interventions required to maintain health, independence and well-being lie outside health and social care.
- Playing a part in providing accessible, inclusive, exciting, sustainable services, which promote and facilitate learning, culture, heritage, information, well-being and leisure.



#### Why this should concern us?

- There is a significant gap in life expectancy and a healthy life expectancy. In Carmarthenshire:
  - Life expectancy for males is 77.8 years (2016-18) compared to a healthy life expectancy of 65 years (2010-14)
  - Life expectancy for females is 82.3 years (2016-18) compared to a healthy life expectancy of 66 years (2010-14)
  - Healthy life expectancy of both males and females are below the Welsh average of 65.3 and 66.7 years.
- 16.2% of adults are still smoking in Carmarthenshire and 63.6% of adults are overweight or obese (Welsh Average of 59.9%) National Survey for Wales 2018/19 & 2019/20
- Referrals to substance misuse services have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and we are seeing an increase in associated issues such as Alcohol Related Brain Damage.
- The comorbidity of mental health and substance misuse is also a matter of concern.

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to work with partners to ensure people across Carmarthenshire:
    - Eat and breathe healthily
    - Are physically active; and
    - Maintain good mental health.
- We need to remove inequalities around opportunities for people to address these areas

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. Eat and breathe healthily:** We will provide healthy food and drink options at our Culture, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation facilities, whilst making more and more of these services available online as well. We will ensure that our outdoor recreation facilities i.e. Country Parks, open spaces and Rights of Way networks are maintained and can be accessed safely and enjoyed by everyone.
- B. Physical Activity:** We will continue investment in the new state of the art Pentre Awel (Wellness Village) in Llanelli; work in partnership with schools and the voluntary and health sectors to get “more people more active more often”; and, enable employers to support Workplace Health initiatives.
- C. Mental Health:** We will continue to work with health and third sector partners to transform mental health services and respond to the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and well-being of our population in Carmarthenshire. We will collaborate to improve access to information, advice, preventive and crisis services. We will aim for people to experience the positive health benefits of taking inspiration from our Cultural collections to promote creativity, mindfulness and self-confidence.
- D. Substance Misuse:** We will collaborate with partners to raise public awareness of Substance Misuse and develop a range of collaborative interventions to improve outcomes in this area.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths

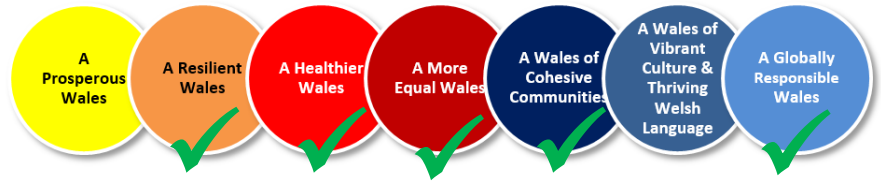


## Well-being Objective 8

Live Well/Age Well - Support community cohesion, resilience & safety

### So why is this important?

- Safety and a feeling of belonging are important to personal well-being and more people now appreciate the value of kindness and being part of a community.
- Public bodies have clear obligations to create and support cohesive communities in Wales. Cohesive Communities is one of the National Goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. A cohesive community is an area where those from different backgrounds share positive relationships, feel safe in their neighbourhood, and have a sense of mutual respect and shared values.
- **Community Resilience** is also essential to enable communities to respond to, withstand, and recover from adverse situations. The COVID-19 crisis has shown what can be achieved when communities work together.



### Why this should concern us?

- Only half (51.5%) of Carmarthenshire residents feel they live in cohesive communities, where people treat each other with respect and consideration, that people from different backgrounds get on well together, and feel they belong to their local area. Five years ago, the figure was 73% and we had the 5<sup>th</sup> best result in Wales whereas now we are ranked 14<sup>th</sup> out of the 22 local authority areas (National Survey for Wales, 2018/19).
- Feeling safe at home and in the local community impacts on everyone's sense of well-being. In particular, the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and well-being of our population is significant.

### What do we need to do? [See FG Report May 2020 – A Wales of Cohesive Communities](#)

- We need to continue to build greater community cohesion and to support and empower communities to address their safety, collective well-being, and the well-being of those within the community.
- We will collaborate with partners to ensure a multi-agency response to mental health and well-being.
- We need to ensure services provide proactive information, advice, access, and assistance fairly to all.
- We need to work with partners to help communities feel safer. This includes road safety, public protection, tackling anti-social behaviour and protecting vulnerable people including victims of domestic abuse.

### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will continue to develop and implement how we provide information, advice, and assistance.
- B. For greater community cohesion we will:
  - Increase understanding of our communities by engaging and communicating key issues
  - Ensure individuals whose safety is at risk understand the support available
  - Encourage communities to be empowered to improve their circumstances
  - Support a culture of tolerance and raise awareness of minority communities' experiences
- C. We will encourage resilience and develop an early intervention and community resilience strategy to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and well-being of our population.
- D. We will continue to work with partners to help our residents feel safe, building on the partnership and regeneration work taking place in Tyisha.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Cefin Campbell

# Age Well

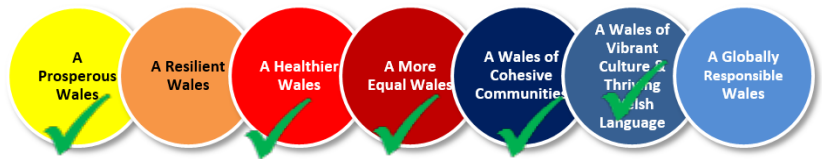




## Well-being Objective 9

### Age Well - Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years

#### So why is this important?



- Carmarthenshire has a high proportion of residents over 65 who are a vital and vibrant part of the community. We want the county to be a place to age well.
- Consultations have demonstrated that 'what matters' to older people is to be able to be as independent and as well as possible for as long as possible.  
**'Being respected as an older person and not being seen as a burden on the local health and social care system'**
- Research shows that a vital factor of healthy ageing is for older people is social participation, respect and inclusion.
- Older people contribute to the economy in Carmarthenshire by caring for their grandchildren or other family members.
- Wider services can make an important contribution in supporting and sustaining the independence of older people and reducing the demand on Social Services and Health Care.
- The Council has determined to make Carmarthenshire a dementia friendly County along the lines of the [Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friendly Community Programme](#).
- The impact of COVID-19 on our care homes

#### Why this should concern us?

- Current projections suggest that the population of people over 65 living in Carmarthenshire is growing and by 2030 this will increase by 60%. There has been, and continues to be, a significant increase in the 'oldest of the old' with the greatest rise represented in the over 85 age group: with a predicted growth of 116%.
- Older people are statistically more likely to have a life limiting health condition with 55% of the over 65 population reporting having a long-term illness or disability. Demand for hospital and community services by those aged 75 and over is in general more than three times greater than from those aged between 30 and 40.
- Whilst the people of Carmarthenshire are living longer there is not a similar trend in increased years of being well. This is defined as healthy and disability-free life expectancy and it is rising more slowly than life expectancy. In simple terms this means that people are living longer with illness and disabilities. For males in the area, life expectancy is 77.4, with disability free life estimated at 59.4 and healthy life at 64. For females, it is 82, with 61.2 disability free years and 65.7 healthy ones.
- It is essential that we lay robust foundations to future proof the availability of services that promote and support ongoing well-being and independence for our frail older adult population.
- Older people are a significant asset to Wales, worth over £1bn to the Welsh economy annually. We must take forward an asset-based approach which, rather than focusing on the costs of providing services for older people, considers instead the cost of not investing in older people.
- When surveyed older people have told us that they want as much support as possible to help them do the things they enjoy and to be able to manage day to day.

#### What do we need to do?

- The introduction of vaccine centres is a way out of the COVID-19 pandemic
- We need to continue to integrate health and social care at population health level to address the complex needs associated with age related multiple conditions and frailty.
- We need to work with individuals and communities together with the public, private and voluntary sectors to develop and promote Age-friendly Communities in Carmarthenshire across the domains of civic participation, communication and information social participation, outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, respect and social inclusion, housing and community support and health services.

- We need a ‘joined-up’ approach across all Council departments to support independent living and to help older people live in their communities. Making sure that the impact of all service changes on elderly people are carefully thought through.
- We need to involve older people who are often ‘*experts by experience*’ and know the services they need to remain active and independent in their communities.
- We need to work with Public Services Board (PSB) to achieve the Older People’s Commissioner for Wales’ targets for inclusion in the PSBs *Well-Being Plan*.
- We need to reflect on research undertaken by the Older People’s Commissioner’s Office ‘Leave no-one behind: Action for an age-friendly recovery’ and respond to the Welsh Government’s Strategy for an Ageing Society: age friendly Wales, as we transition from the pandemic
- We need to focus on outcome-based approaches to draw out the changes and improvements seen in an individual’s life – we need to build services around the outcomes that older people need.

**Our steps to improve this**  Actions to deliver these are in our [Departmental and Service Business Plans](#)

The Welsh Government commissioned a Parliamentary Review of the Long-Term Future of Health and Social Care: ‘*A Healthier Wales*’ is the Welsh Government’s response to that Review. The report adopts a ‘*Quadruple Aim*’. They are to continually work towards:

- A.** Improved population health and well-being;
- B.** Better quality and more accessible health and social care services;
- C.** Higher value health and social care; and
- D.** A motivated and sustainable health and social care workforce.

In response, we have developed our approach in partnership to delivering ‘*A Healthier Carmarthenshire*’, and in doing this we have looked at how we will improve outcomes for older people in the County. In doing this, the Council will also take account of the *Older People’s Commissioner’s* priorities, Welsh Government *Strategy for an ageing society: age friendly Wales*, and the *World Health Organisation’s* age friendly priorities for action.





# Healthy, Safe & Prosperous Environment



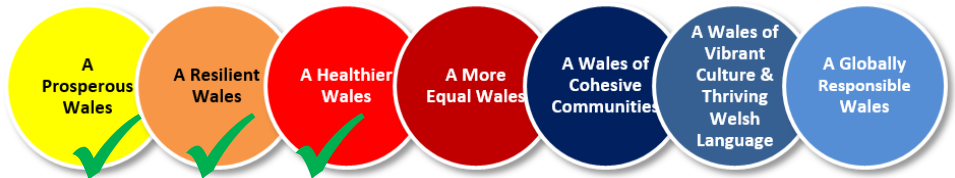


# Well-being Objective 10

## Healthy & Safe Environment - Look after the environment now and in the future

### Why is this important?

- The *Natural Environment* is a core component of sustainable development. The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 expands the duty placed on public bodies, requiring them to *maintain & enhance biodiversity & promote ecosystem resilience*.
- A biodiverse natural environment, with healthy functioning ecosystems, supports social, economic and ecological resilience. Carmarthenshire’s natural environment is the natural resource on which much of our economy is based – *tourism, farming, forestry, and renewable energy*. It is a major factor that attracts people, both young and older to live, work and visit the county, bringing inward investment with them.
- The *conservation and enhancement of biodiversity* is vital in our response to climate change and key ecosystem services such as food, flood management, pollination, clean air and water.
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic showed the strong relationship between *residents’ well-being and their surrounding natural environment* from providing recreational opportunities, to psychological positivity, health benefits and a connection to heritage and culture.
- We have declared a *climate emergency* as a Council and were the first in Wales to have published our [Route Towards becoming a Net Zero Carbon Local Authority by 2030](#). In July 2020 public services across Wales [pledged to ensuring decarbonisation](#).



### Why this should concern us?

- The environment contributes £8.8 billion of goods and services annually to the Welsh economy, 9% of Welsh GDP and 1 in 6 Welsh jobs; with the environment being relatively more important to the Welsh economy than is the case for the other UK nations.
- Annual budget consultation results show that ‘Looking after the environment now and for the future’ is the second most important Well-being Objective to citizens.
- A biodiverse natural environment, with healthy functioning ecosystems, supports social, economic and ecological resilience, as well as our health and well-being. Ash Dieback will see significant tree loss.
- The COVID-19 pandemic saw an increased appreciation of the benefits of access to the natural environment and air quality, and concerns about fly-tipping, littering and recycling.
- Rising sea levels are likely to impact not only the 6,388 properties in Carmarthenshire already at risk of tidal and rising river level flooding, but additional properties along our coastal and river communities as a result of increased frequency and intensity of storm events such as storms Callum and Dennis. A biodiverse natural environment will be more resilient to both climate change, and changes in sea level.

### What do we need to do?

- We need to ensure that in delivering all our strategies, plans, projects and programmes for development, the road to economic growth and the attraction of inward investment, we deliver our Environment (Wales) Act duties and actively maintain and protect biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.
- We need to sustain and enhance natural & built spaces to encourage healthy living for residents & visitors.
- We need to support ecological resilience within our rural and urban communities.

### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will work to improve the environment, biodiversity and ecosystem resilience and comply with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and play our role in ensuring nature recovery.
- B. We will plan, design, and build sustainable communities and infrastructure for the future to address long term challenges and ensure well-being and embrace the spirit of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015.
- C. We will implement the Route towards becoming a Net Zero Carbon Local Authority by 2030 and support the Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action 8-point Manifesto.
- D. We will mitigate the effects of flooding and damage caused by rising sea levels and increased frequency of storms as far as is reasonably practicable with respect to our natural and built environment, including properties, through delivering our obligations under the Flood and Water Management Act; we will address the lessons learnt from storms Callum and Dennis. We will manage our coastline assets in accordance with the Shoreline Management Plan.
- E. We will deliver actions from the ‘Towards Zero Waste strategy’, to become a high recycling nation by 2025 and a zero-waste nation by 2050.



Lead Executive Board Members:  
Cllr Phillip Hughes, Cllr Cefin Campbell  
& Cllr Hazel Evans

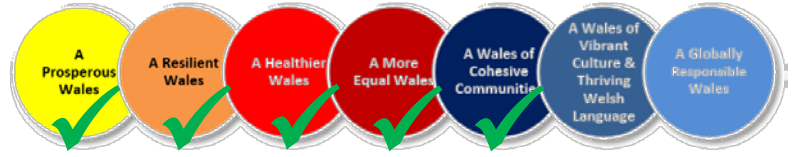


## Well-being Objective 11

### Healthy & Safe Environment - Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity

#### Why is this important?

- Transportation & highways play a key role in sustaining our community and deliver 'Prosperity for All.' A modern, successful economy is reliant upon the safe and efficient movement of people and goods; providing opportunities for people to gain access to employment, education, health, leisure and shopping.
- *United and connected* is one of the four Welsh Government aims in its 'Taking Wales Forward' plan. Providing integrated and affordable access for businesses, for residents and visitors can stimulate economic development, reductions in deprivation and social exclusion and an increase in well-being.
- Sustaining access to services will deliver improvements in health and well-being for all sections of the community e.g. that includes walking, cycling, passenger and road transport.
- By 2030 South West Wales will be a confident, ambitious and connected City Region.



#### Why this should concern us?

- Our highway network is the second largest in Wales covering 3,545 Kilometres, more than double the Welsh average of 1,566 Kilometres; covering 16 million square metres of carriageway.
- The condition of our roads was ranked 17<sup>th</sup> out of 22 across Wales in 2017/18.
- 18.8% of residents do not have access to a car or van. However, 43.5% of households have one car per household, which may indicate reduced accessibility in areas not well served by public transport.
- Only 55% aged 80 or over have access to a car/van therefore public transport and community based services are important to enable people to continue to live within their communities; it can mean the difference between a person staying independent at home or entering residential care.
- Air quality is a concern in Llandeilo, Carmarthen and Llanelli. [Impact of COVID-19 lockdown on Air Quality](#).

#### What do we need to do? [The FG Commissioners May 2020 Report - Transport](#)

- We need to improve connectivity and support access to services.
- We need to develop a transportation system that will enable businesses to grow and flourish in line with our economic ambitions as an authority
- We need to sustain investment into our public and community transport systems and facilitate travel to and from schools to support our Modernising Education Programme.
- We need to also invest in infrastructure to support more sustainable journeys and Active Travel. For example, through cycle ways, footpaths and public transport infrastructure.
- We need to continue to sustain investment in our existing highway infrastructure to improve connectivity.
- We need to ensure our fleet of vehicles are safe, modern and efficient, and design our replacement strategy to adapt to changes in vehicle technology.

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will develop the highway infrastructure to meet the priorities of our Regeneration Plan and Swansea Bay City Deal. We will continue to develop a new highway at Cross Hands and develop strategic schemes to connect communities to promote 'Active Travel' and tourism.
- B. We will continue the successful integrated public transport network such as Bwcabus/LINC and Traws Cymru, develop a Metro for South West Wales to integrate Active Travel, bus and rail stations and work with regional colleagues to improve rail connectivity and journey times to West Wales.
- C. We will plan to redesign our school transport network to support the Modernising Education Programme.
- D. We will continue to support community and rural transport (see Well-being Objective 5, Step C)
- E. We will meet our objectives set out in our Road Safety Strategy.
- F. We will continue to modernise our vehicle fleet to improve efficiency and reduce emissions, and support the development of electrical vehicle charging infrastructure.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Hazel Evans



## Well-being Objective 12

### Healthy & Safe Environment - Promote Welsh Language and Culture

#### So why is this important?

- Carmarthenshire is a stronghold for the Welsh language and is considered to be of high strategic importance in its future.
- Bilingualism is beneficial to both the economy and individuals through cognitive and social benefits.
- It is a unique selling point. Tourist and hospitality industries throughout Europe are now realising the importance of offering unique experiences. Having two languages and a sense of Welsh history and culture places Carmarthenshire in a strong position.
- Engaging in cultural activity has demonstrable positive impact on starting well, living well and ageing well.



#### Why this should concern us?

- According to the results of the 2019/20 National Survey for Wales **37.4%** of people in Carmarthenshire said that they spoke Welsh. *(Based on a sample of 12,400 in Wales)*
- The 2011 Census showed that the number of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire had reduced to **43.9%** compared to 50.1% in 2001.
- The Welsh Government’s ambition, through the [Cymraeg 2050 - Welsh language Strategy](#), is to see the number of people able to enjoy speaking and using Welsh reach a **million by 2050**.
- The Welsh Government’s [Light Springs through the Dark: A Vision for Culture in Wales](#) is reinforcing the importance of culture as a priority.

#### What do we need to do?

- We need to ensure compliance with the [Welsh Language Standards](#)
- We need to continue to implement and promote the ‘WESP’ [Welsh in Education Strategic Plan](#) in partnership with school leaders for the benefit of all Carmarthenshire learners. *(Also see WBO3)*
- We need to promote the use of the Welsh Language in our communities working with partners such as Mentrau Iaith, Urdd and Mudiad Meithrin to realise the vision set out in our [Welsh Language Promotion Strategy](#)
- We need to promote ourselves as a bilingual employer & explore the possibilities of doing so in cooperation with other public sector organisations in the County, with a key focus on our apprenticeships programme
- We need to develop the language skills of our staff and the use of the Welsh Language in the workplace and ensure that we take advantage of technological developments to this aim
- We need to ensure that economic development and prosperity of the Welsh language happen side by side by regenerating rural economies and communities
- We need to increase the number of people participating in cultural activity
- We need to ensure that our County’s heritage assets are protected and accessible for future generations.

#### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. We will implement and monitor the **Welsh Language Standards** under the Welsh Language Measures 2011.
- B. We will continue the **development of Welsh in all our Education services**, thus moving towards ensuring that every pupil is confidently bilingual. Pupils can fulfil their potential in gaining skills to operate as bilingual citizens in their communities, the workplace and beyond/worldwide.
- C. We will assess the impact of **Language Promotion Strategy**, which will facilitate the use of Welsh in everything we do across all communities and start revising the strategy with key partners
- D. We will promote our **Welsh Culture & Heritage**
- E. We will continue to support our Annual Cultural awards, whilst working with local communities to promote the annual village and town of Culture.



Lead Executive Board Member  
Cllr Peter Hughes-Griffiths

# Better Governance & Use of Resources



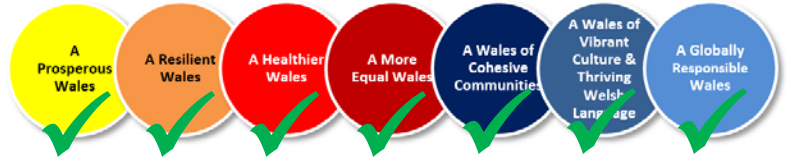


# Well-being Objective 13

## Better Governance and use of Resources

### So why is this important?

- The general purpose of the *Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015*, is to ensure that the governance arrangements of public bodies for improving the Well-being of Wales take the needs of future generations into account. To make this work there are key areas of corporate change that are required by the Act.
- There are increasing demands and expectations yet less resources are available. Under these conditions we need to work even more efficiently and effectively to maintain services and improve where we can, delivering *'more (or even the same) for less'*.
- The way we work needs to focus on the long term, working in partnership and collaboration, involving people more, preventing problems before they materialise and ensuring we work in an integrated way to maximise our resources and reduce duplication; one of the ways we do this is through the Public Services Board (PSB).



### Why this should concern us?

- There are further financial pressures as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Brexit.
- The Pandemic has shown the importance of digital connectivity and new ways of working.

### What do we need to do?

- Our Transform, Innovate and Change (TIC) approach will make sure that we take the opportunity to learn the lessons of the COVID-19 Pandemic and build on the of the new ways of working that were successful.
- We will comply with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act on the establishment of a new and reformed legislative framework for local government elections, democracy, governance, and performance.
- We will apply the new Socio-Economic Duty to reduce inequalities due to socio-economic disadvantage.
- We will invest in regeneration through the council's capital programme by developing and building employment space for businesses and providing financial support to the private sector for development.
- We will make better use of our resources which will help to minimise the impact on services primarily by making smarter use of our buildings, our people, and our spending.
- We need to embed tackling inequality across all Services. [See A More Equal Wales](#)

### Our steps to improve this Actions to deliver these are in our Departmental and Service Business Plans

- A. By transforming innovating and changing the way we work and deliver services.**  
Our *Transform, Innovate and Change* (TIC) programme is aimed at thinking differently, acting differently and therefore delivering differently.
- B. We shall follow the 7 Principles of Good Governance** set out Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)/ Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE):
- B1. Integrity and Values** (*Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law*)
  - B2. Openness and engagement** (*Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement*)
  - B3. Making a difference** (*Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, & environmental benefits*)
  - B4. Making sure we achieve what we set out to do** (*Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes*)
  - B5. Valuing our people; engaging, leading and supporting** (*Developing capacity and the capability of leadership and individuals*)
  - B6. Managing risks, performance and finance** (*Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management*)
  - B7. Good transparency and accountability** (*good practices, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability*)



**Lead Executive Board Members**  
Cllr David Jenkins &  
Cllr Mair Stephens

# APPENDICES



## Well-being Objective - Mergers and rewording

*Life is for living. Let's start well, live well, age well in a healthy safe and prosperous environment.*

	OLD		NEW		
	No.	Well-being Objective's 2018-21	No.	Well-being Objective 2021-22	Specific focus for 2021/22
Start Well	1	Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences	1	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion of Flying Start under the auspices of the Early years transformation programme</li> </ul>
	2	Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)	2	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling children's mental health issues – possibly resulting from lockdown measures</li> </ul>
	3	Support and improve progress and achievement for all learners	3	<b>Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure learners are supported to re-engage in learning and regain any learning lost due to COVID</li> <li>Ensure that those in examination group are well supported in order that they can follow their chosen pathway</li> </ul>
	4	Ensure all young people are in Education, Employment or Training (EET) and are following productive learning and career pathways.			
Live Well	5	Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, helping people into work and improving the lives of those living in poverty	4	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling Poverty</li> </ul>
	6	Create more jobs and growth throughout the county	5	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SME &amp; foundational economy</li> <li>Rural regeneration</li> <li>Pentre Awel</li> </ul>
	7	Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes	6	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local housing crisis - escalating costs and second homes</li> </ul>
	8	Help people live healthy lives (Tackling risky behaviour and Adult obesity)	7	<b>Continue</b>	
	9	Support good connections with friends, family and safer communities	8	<b>Support community cohesion, resilience, and safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Cohesion</li> </ul>
Age Well	10	Support the growing numbers of older people to maintain dignity and independence in their later years	9	<b>Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age Friendly Communities</li> </ul>
	11	A Council wide approach to supporting Ageing Well in Carmarthenshire			
In a healthy and safe environment	12	Look after the environment now and for the future	10	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change with particular focus on flooding</li> <li>Net Zero Carbon</li> </ul>
	13	Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity	11	<b>Continue</b>	
	14	Promoting Welsh Language and Culture	12	<b>Continue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting national target of a million Welsh speakers</li> </ul>
Corporate Governance	15	Building a better Council Making Better use of Resources	13	<b>Better Governance and use of Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed tackling inequality across all of the Council's objectives</li> </ul>



## Statutory Requirements

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 are separate but interconnected legal obligations and the requirements of both are fully aligned and combined in this Corporate Strategy.

### The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009

- The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 requires the Council to set Improvement Objectives every year. They do not have to change every year or be deliverable within one year.
- Our Improvement Objectives are essentially the same as our Well-being Objectives as they are based on a thorough evidence-based understanding of the communities we serve and local needs. We compare our service performance and satisfaction results with all councils in Wales to make sure we improve where we most need to.
- We have a duty to improve, often delivering ‘more (or even the same) for less’.

### Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015

The general purpose of the Act, is to ensure that the governance arrangements of public bodies for improving the well-being of Wales, take the needs of future generations into account. The Act is designed to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, in accordance with sustainable development principles. The law states that: -

- We must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The sustainable development principle is ***‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’***
- We must demonstrate use of the 5 ways of working:  
Long term, integrated, involving, collaborative and preventative
- We must work towards achieving all of the 7 national well-being goals in the Act. Together they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards.

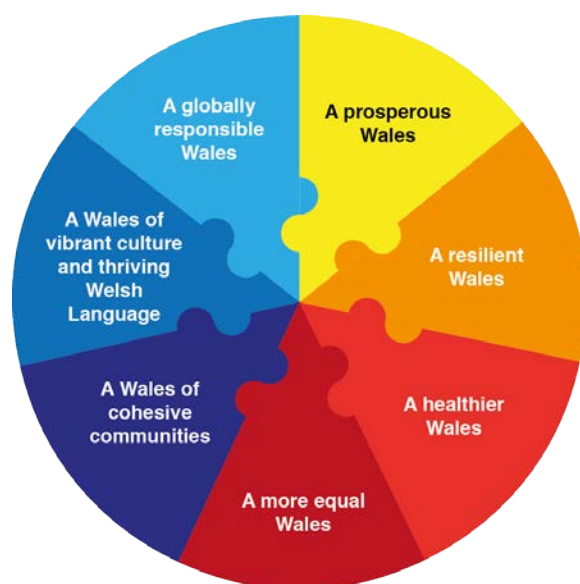
For the first time in Wales, the Well-being of Future Generations Act, provides a shared vision for all public bodies in Wales to work towards. As a public body subject to the Act we are required to set and publish Well-being Objectives that maximise our Contribution to the Well-being Goals.

### The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act provides for the establishment of a new and reformed legislative framework for local government elections, democracy, governance, and performance. The Act will replace the current improvement duty for principal councils set out in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. We will report on 2021-22 under the terms of the new Act.

### Socio-economic duty

From 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, this duty will require councils, when taking strategic decisions such as ‘deciding priorities and setting objectives’, to consider how their decisions might help to reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.



## Financing the Council's Well-being Objectives

The financial position faced by local authorities has had a consistent theme over the last decade, with the level of resources available to public services seeing significant reductions, which means that we have less money to invest in services now than we have in the past. Over the last five years we have had to manage reductions in service budgets of around £\*\*m, whilst at the same time the pressures on the budget have been increasing in terms of demand and expectations. We strive to manage this situation by reducing our spending without any significant impact on the frontline services valued by our communities.

### 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences



To Follow.....

### 2. Help children live healthy lifestyles



### 3 Support and improve progress, achievement and outcomes for all learners



### 4 Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of those living in poverty



### 5 Create more jobs and growth throughout the county



### 6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes



### 7 Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity)



**8. Support community cohesion, resilience and safety**



**9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years**



**10. Look after the environment now and for the future**



**11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity**



**12. Promote Welsh Language and Culture**



**13. Better governance and use of resources**



## Statements of Intent

### Well-being Statement

We welcome our duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. We have already addressed much of the new Act's requirements but recognise that we can do more.

1. We feel that our Well-being Objectives contribute significantly to the achievement of the National Well-being Goals. Our Well-being Objectives relate to different aspects of life's course and address well-being in a systematic way.
2. These Well-being Objectives have been selected with considerable consultation feedback and a basket of different sources of information on need, performance data and regulatory feedback. In developing action plans to achieve these objectives we will involve people (in all their diversity) with an interest in achieving them.
3. The steps we take to achieve the Well-being Objectives (our action plans) will look to ensure that long term, preventative, integrated, collaborative and involvement approaches are fully embraced.
4. An Executive Board member has a specific responsibility for the overall Act. In addition, each Executive Board portfolio holder/s will have responsibility for the relevant Well-being Objectives.
5. To ensure that we take these action plan steps we will use our in house developed Performance Information Monitoring System dashboard. All the action plans will be monitored and reported on quarterly to Department Management Teams, Corporate Management Team and Executive Board. In addition, progress will be reported to Scrutiny Committees. The Council will prepare an Annual Report on its Well-being Objectives and revise the objectives if required.
6. The content of action plans to achieve the Well-being Objectives are adequately resourced and embedded in service business plans (see financial breakdown Appendix 3). To achieve these objectives services will 'join-up' and work together, work with partners and fully involve citizens in all their diversity.
7. Our Objectives are long term, but our action plans will include milestones that will enable monitoring and assurance of progress.
8. To ensure that our Well-being Objectives are deliverable and that the expectations of the Act are embraced we will adapt financial planning, asset management, risk assessment, performance management and scrutiny arrangements.
9. In May 2020 the Future Generations Commissioner published the Future Generations Report 2020 and made recommendations for public bodies that we will consider for 2021/22 in Service Business Plans.

## How we measure the success of our Well-being Objectives

The Council is working with local, regional and national partners to improve the following measures.

	Well-being Objectives	Success measures
Start Well	<b>WBO 1 - Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children in care with 3 or more placements in the year</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 2 - Help children live healthy lifestyles.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children overweight or obese</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 3 - Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average Capped 9 points score for pupils</li> <li>Primary &amp; Secondary School attendance rates</li> <li>Satisfaction with child's primary school</li> <li>Year 11 &amp; 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)</li> </ul>
Live Well	<b>WBO 4 - Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of those living in poverty.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gap in average Capped 9 points score for those eligible for Free School Meals and those who are not eligible</li> <li>Households successfully prevented from becoming homeless</li> <li>Households in material deprivation</li> <li>Households Living in Poverty</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 5 - Create more jobs and growth throughout the county.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment figures</li> <li>Jobs created with Regeneration assistance</li> <li>Average Gross weekly pay</li> <li>Number qualified to NVQ Level 4 or above</li> <li>People moderately or very satisfied with jobs</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 6 - Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of affordable homes in the County</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 7 - Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour &amp; obesity).</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults who say their general health is Good or Very Good</li> <li>Adults who say they have a longstanding illness</li> <li>Adult mental well-being score</li> <li>Adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 8 - Support community cohesion, resilience and safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People that have a sense of community</li> <li>People feeling safe</li> </ul>

Well-being Objectives		Key success measure
Age Well	<b>WBO 9 - Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rate of people kept in hospital while waiting for social care</li> <li>• People agree there's a good Social Care Service available in the area</li> <li>• Number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant</li> <li>• People who are lonely</li> </ul>
In A Healthy, Safe & Prosperous Environment	<b>WBO 10 - Look after the environment now and for the future</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable energy generated</li> <li>• Waste reused, recycled or composted</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 11 - Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road conditions</li> <li>• Road casualties</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 12 - Promote Welsh Language and Culture.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can speak Welsh</li> <li>• People attended arts events in Wales</li> <li>• People visited historic places in Wales</li> <li>• People visited museums in Wales</li> </ul>
	<b>WBO 13 - Better Governance and use of Resources.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Do it online' payments</li> <li>• People can access information about the Authority in the way they would like to</li> <li>• People know how to find what services the Council provides</li> <li>• People have an opportunity to participate in making decisions about the running of local authority services</li> <li>• Staff sickness absence levels</li> <li>• Organisational 'running costs'</li> <li>• We ask for people's views before setting the budget</li> </ul>

## Outcome Measures

The Well-being of Future Generations Act promotes a shift in focus from service productivity, to all public bodies working together to progress outcomes that improves the quality of life of citizens and communities, both now and in the future.

## How Services 'Join-up' to deliver Well-being Objectives

Dec 2020

Lead Officer		✓	WBO 1	WBO 2	WBO 3	WBO 4	WBO 5	WBO 6	WBO 7	WBO 8	WBO 9	WBO 10	WBO 11	WBO 12	WBO 13
Supporting Officer		✓													
CEX	Admin & Law	Linda Rees Jones													✓
	People Mgt	Paul Thomas				✓	✓		✓						✓
	Regeneration	Jason Jones				✓	✓						✓		✓
	ICT & Corp Policy	Noelwyn Daniel			✓	✓	✓			✓				✓	✓
CS	Financial Services	Randal Hemingway													✓
	Revenues & Financial Compliance	Helen Pugh				✓									✓
Communities	Head of Adult Social Care	Avril Bracey		✓					✓	✓	✓				
	Regional Collaboration	Martyn Palfreman		✓						✓	✓				
	Integrated Services	Alex Williams							✓	✓	✓				
	Homes & Safer Comm.	Jonathan Morgan				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
	Leisure	Ian Jones		✓					✓			✓		✓	
E&CS	Edu & Inclusion	Aneurin Thomas	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓					
	Curr & Wellbeing	Aeron Rees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	
	Access to Education	Simon Davies	✓	✓	✓		✓								
	Children	Stefan Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓					
ENV	Property	Jonathan Fearn			✓		✓	✓				✓			✓
	Planning	Llinos Quelch		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓			✓
	Trans.& Highways	Stephen Pilliner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Waste & Env.	Ainsley Williams		✓							✓	✓			✓

This page is intentionally left blank



# COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

### Scrutiny Action Update

**To consider and comment on the following issues:**

- To scrutinise the progress made in relation to actions, requests or referrals recorded during previous meetings of the Committee.

**Reasons:**

- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to monitoring performance.

**To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO**

**Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: NOT APPLICABLE**

<p><b>Directorate:</b> Chief Executive's</p> <p><b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p><b>Report Author:</b> Kevin Thomas</p>	<p><b>Designations:</b></p> <p>Head of Administration &amp; Law</p> <p>Democratic Services Officer</p>	<p><b>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</b></p> <p>01267 224010 <a href="mailto:lrjones@cararthenshire.gov.uk">lrjones@cararthenshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>01267 224027 <a href="mailto:kjthomas@cararthenshire.gov.uk">kjthomas@cararthenshire.gov.uk</a></p>
--	--	--

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

### Scrutiny Action Update

During the course of a municipal year, several requests for additional information are made by the Committee in order to assist it in discharging its scrutiny role.

The attached report provides members of the Committee with an update on the progress made in relation to these requests.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**  
NO

N/A

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW OR THERE ARE NONE** (Delete as applicable)

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Community Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes	<b>Meetings from September 2016 onwards:</b> <a href="http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=186">http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=186</a>

**Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020**

Ref No	Meeting Date	Recommendation / Action / Referral	Description	Progress Update	Member / Officer	Status
CS 01 - 19/20	2nd July 2019	Recommendation	<b>Building More Council Homes - Our Ambition and Plan of Action</b>  To Provide members, by e-mail, with the affordable home activity per ward	Details of affordable home activity per ward will be updated to include all delivery up to the 31st March 2021. This will be e-mailed to members as soon as the information is available	Jonathan Morgan	In Progress
CS02 - 19/20	2nd July 2019	Recommendation	<b>Building More Council Homes - Our Ambition and Plan of Action</b>  To Provide members, by e-mail, with details of the discussions being undertaken on the feasibility of limiting the number of times a planning application could be re-newed on a plot of land	an e-mail response has been provided to the Committee members	Llinos Quelch	Completed
CS03-19/20	2nd July 2019	Action	<b>Building More Council Homes - Our Ambition and Plan of Action</b>  the plan be recommended to the Executive Board for Adoption	1. The plan was accepted by Executive Board on the 29th July, 2019 and recommended to Council for adoption  2. The Plan was adopted by the Council on the 11th October 2019	Jonathan Morgan	Completed
CS04-19/20	2nd July 2019	Recommendation	<b>Draft Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report for 2018/19</b>  To seek a more appropriate symbol, rather than a smiley face, to demonstrate the measure of success	Symbol amended	Gwyneth Ayres	Completed
CS05 -19/20	2nd July 2019	Action	<b>Draft Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report for 2018/19</b>  The Head of Leisure to explore the option co-ordinating a meeting with key agencies to explore the potential for promoting fishing opportunities across the County	Meeting of Key Partners arranged for late September, 2019  A Development session for members was held on the 19th November	Ian Jones	Completed
CS06- 19/20	2nd July 2019	Action	<b>Draft Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report for 2018/19</b>  To recommend to the Executive Board the adoption of the Draft Annual Report	The report was considered by the Executive Board on the 23rd September 2019 and was subsequently adopted by Council on the 9th October, 2019	Gwyneth Ayres	Completed

**Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020**

CS07-19/20	3rd October 2019	Recommendation	<p><b>Annual Performance Report 2018/19 (Planning)</b></p> <p>The Preport was approved for submission to the Welsh Government by the 31st October 2019</p>	<p>the report was considered and approved by the Executive Board at its meeting held on the 23rd September and by the Council on the 9th October.</p> <p>The report was submitted to the Welsh Government by the 31st October</p>	Llinos Quelch	Completed
CS08-19/20	3rd October 2019	Recommendation	<p><b>Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19 Adopted Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan</b></p> <p>to recommend to the Executive Board/Council that the fourth annual monitoring report be approved for both submission to the Welsh Government and published on the Council's website by the 31st October</p>	<p>the report was considered and approved by the Executive Board at its meeting held on the 23rd September and Council on the 9th October.</p> <p>The report has been published on the Council's website</p>	Ian Llewellyn	Completed
CS09- 19/20	3rd October 2019	Recommendation	<p><b>Quarter 1 - 1st April to 30th June 2019 Performance Monitoring Report</b></p> <p>A report is to be sent to members providing an explanation for why 16 of the actions in the report had been provided with amended target dates</p>	<p>the report has been e-mailed to members</p>	Ian Jones / Jason Jones / Llinos Quelch	Completed
CS10 - 19/20	3rd October 2019	Action	<p><b>Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2019/20</b></p> <p>to provide members with an explanation on the anticipated £55k budgetary shortfall at the Nant y Ci Livestock Market</p>	<p>the information was provided by e-mail on the 29th October and updated at a Development Session held on the 19th November</p>	Helen Morgan / Jason Jones	Completed
CS11- 19/20	16th October	Action	<p><b>Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033</b></p> <p>to provide members with details on the use of recycled materials by the construction industry</p>	<p>an e- mail detailing the requested information was sent to members on the 18th October</p>	Llinos Quelch	Completed

**Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020**

CS12 - 19/20	16th October	Recommendation	<p><b>Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033</b></p> <p>Recommended to Council:- 1. the plan be approved for formal consultation; 2.the SPG for the Burry Inlet and the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of conservation be approved for consultation concurrent with the Draft Deposit LDP</p>	<p>1. Considered by Executive Board on the 21st October for referral to Council for consideration</p> <p>The Plan was considered by Council on the 13th November, 2019 and approved for consultation</p>	Llinos Quelch	Completed
CS13 - 19/20	19th November	Recommendation	<p><b>Universal Credit full service update for Carmarthenshire</b></p> <p>To convene a Member Seminar on the roll out of Universal Credit within Carmarthenshire</p>	<p>Arrangements were made for the Seminar to be held in April 2020. This was cancelled due to the Covid Panemic. Arrangements will be made to reconvene the seminar as soon as practicable</p>	Jonathan Morgan	In progress
CS14 - 19/20	19th November	Action	<p>Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2019/20</p> <p>to provide a breakdown of general costs associated with the free swim grant and the recent reduction in funding,</p>	<p>Information has been provided to members of the Committee by e-mail</p>	Ian Jones	completed
CS15 - 19/20	16th January 2020	Recommendation	<p>Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2020/21 - 2022/23</p> <p>The Executive Board, as part of the Budgetary consultation, be recommended to fund the estimated £150k cost to primary schools of providing swimming lessons as part of the key Stage 2 curriculum, with the cost thereof being met from the £293k unallocated contingency within the budget strategy</p>	<p>The recommendation was not progressed by the Executive Board as part of the budget proposals</p>	Randal Hemingway	Completed
CS16 - 19/20	16th January 2020	Recommendation	<p>Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2020/21 - 2022/23</p> <p>The Committee undertake site visits to the Council's Libraries and museums</p>	<p>All site visits are currently held in abeyance due to the ongoing Covid 19 epidemic. They will recommence when current restrictions have been lifted. They have also been included within the 2020/21 Forward Work Programme</p>	Kevin Thomas	Completed
CS17 - 19/20	16th January 2020	Action	<p>Communities Departmental Draft Business Plan 2020-2033</p> <p>To provide a report on the Council's Commissioning Plan</p>	<p>New Affordable Homes Commissioning Plan was due to be launched in March 2020 but was postponed. New dates now being confirmed</p>	Jonathan Morgan	In progress

**Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020**

CS18 - 19/20	16th January 2020	Action	<p>Communities Departmental Draft Business Plan 2020-2033</p> <p>To provide reports through the Council's political process on development proposals for:- Pendine Outdoor Education Centre; St Clears Leisure Centre; Y Gat, St Clears</p>	<p>Anticipated that reports will be available Spring / Summer 2020</p> <p>A report on the Pendine Outdoor Education Centre was submitted to the Council's December 2020 meeting Verbal update provided on St Clears Leisure Centre to say that internal capital bid was not supported, however, scheme remains on shelf and alternative funding opportunities such as local S106 receipt being explored to see if scheme can be phased. A further verbal update was provided on Y Gat, highlighting positive discussions with the local Town Council about a potential management solution.</p>	Ian Jones	completed
CS19 - 19/20	5th February 2020	Action	<p>Housing Revenue Account Budget and Housing Rent Setting for 2020/21</p> <p>To recommend to the Executive Board/Council that the report recommendations be adopted</p>	<p>Report to be submitted to the Executive Board on the 24th February and Council on the 3rd March 2020</p> <p>Report was endorsed at both the Executive Board and Council</p>	Chris Moore  DSO's to note for Exec Board and Council Agenda	Completed
CS20 - 19/20	5th February 2020	Action	<p>The Carmarthenshire Homes Sandard Pluc (CHS+) Business Plan 2020 - 23</p> <p>To recommend to the Executive Board/Council that the report recommendations be adopted</p>	<p>Report to be submitted to the Executive Board on the 24th February and Council on the 3rd March 2020</p> <p>Report was endorsed at both the Executive Board and Council</p>	Jonathan Morgan  DSO's to note for Exec Board and Council Agenda	Completed



**Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020**

Ref No	Meeting Date	Recommendation / Action / Referral	Description	Progress Update	Member / Officer	Status
CS 01 - 20/21	13th November 2020	Action	<b>Impact of Vovid 19 on Carmarthenshire's Lesiure Services</b>  To Provide members, by e-mail, with details of the take up for the Libraries Click and Collect Service	Information has been provided to members by e-mail	Ian Jones / Jane Davies	Completed
CS02 - 20/21	13th November 2020	Action	<b>Impact of Covid 19 on Carmarthenshire's Leisure Services</b>  To keep members informed of the proposals for the future development of the Pendine Outdoor Education Centre	A report was submitted to the Committees December 2020 meeting	Ian Jones	Completed
			To provide the Committee with updates on the development of Y Gat and St Clears Leisure Centre	Verbal update provided on St Clears Leisure Centre to say that internal capital bid was not supported. Alternative funding opportunities being explored to see if scheme can be phased. A further verbal update was provided on Y Gat, highlighting positive discussions with the local Town Council about a potential management solution.	Ian Jones	Completed
			to provide the Committee with income and expenditure figures for the St Clears Leisure Centre	Information provided by e-mail	Ian Jones	Completed
CS03-20/21	13th November 2020	Action	<b>Impact of Covid 19 on Carmarthenshire's Leisure Services</b>  To provide the Committee with updates on the re-opening of the County's theatres	Theatres remain closed due to Welsh Government Restrictions	Ian Jones	In progress
CS04-20/21	13th November 2020	Action	Covid 19 Update report for Regeneration  To provide the Committee with updates on the 10 Towns Initiative	The final countywide economic recovery plan and 10 Ten Town growth plans are currently being finalised and will be available in April/May 2021	Jason Jones	In Progress

### Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020

CS05 -20/21	13th November 2020	Recommendation	Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2020/21  The Forward Work Programme was adopted	The Forward Work Programme will be implemented as adopted	Kevin Thomas	Completed
CS06 - 20/21	2nd February 2021	Recommendation	Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2021/22 to 2023/24  The Strategy was received and the Charging Digests detailed in the report were endorsed	The report is to be submitted to the Executive Board (22/02/21) and Council (3/3/21) for consideration as part of the budget setting consultation	Randall Hemingway	Completed
CS07 - 20/21	2nd February 2021	Recommendation	Housing Revenue Account Budget and Housing Rent Setting for 2021/22  The report recommendations were accepted	The report is to be submitted to the Executive Board (22/02/21) and Council (3/3/21) for consideration as part of the budget setting consultation	Randall Hemingway	Completed
CS08 - 20/21	2nd February 2021	Recommendation	The Carmarthenshire Homes Standard Plus (CHS+) - Business Plan 2021-24  The report recommendations were accepted	The report is to be submitted to the Executive Board (22/02/21) and Council (3/3/21) for consideration as part of the budget setting consultation	Jonathan Morgan	Completed
CS09 - 20/21	2nd February 2021	Action	The Carmarthenshire Homes Standard Plus (CHS+) - Business Plan 2021-24  To provide members, by e-mail, with a position statement on Void Properties		Jonathan Morgan	In progress
CS10 - 20/21	2nd February 2021	Recommendation	Community Cohesion Action Plan  The Action Plan was endorsed for submission to the Welsh Government		Jonathan Morgan	In Progress

Community Scrutiny Committee Actions 2019-2020


This page is intentionally left blank

## EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORTS

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: COMMUNITY**

**DATE OF MEETING: 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	EXPLANATION	REVISED SUBMISSION DATE
Departmental Business Plans	Directors/Heads of Service	"Departmental Business Plans are currently being finalised and will be available once final review meetings have been conducted with Service Directors'.	TBC
Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2019/20	Mr Ian Jones - Head of Leisure	The letter confirming Carmarthenshire Libraries achievement of the standards has not yet been issued by Welsh Government (COVID related delays).	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2021

This page is intentionally left blank

## COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

### FORTHCOMING ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

In order to ensure effective Scrutiny, Members need to be clear as to the purpose of requesting specific information and the outcome they are hoping to achieve as a consequence of examining a report. Limiting the number of agenda items may help to keep meetings focused and easier to manage.

Proposed Agenda Item	Background	Reason for report
Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2019/20: Carmarthenshire	The report covers the Annual Assessment for 2019/20 by the Museums, Archives & Libraries Division of Welsh Government of the Annual Return submitted by Carmarthenshire Libraries under the Welsh Public Library Standards	To monitor the performance of the Library Service against the 6 <sup>th</sup> Quality Assessment Framework of the Welsh Public Library Standards, as contained in the Annual Return for 2019/20.
Budget Monitoring 2020/21	This is a standard quarterly budget report covering the revenue and capital budgets for the Community and Environment Departments which fall within the remit of the Community Scrutiny Committee	To enable the committee to undertake its monitoring role of the Community and Environment Department budgets which fall within its remit

This page is intentionally left blank



## COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

13 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 20	<del>18<sup>th</sup> Jan 21</del> 2 <sup>ND</sup> February 2021	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 21	12 <sup>th</sup> April 21
Community Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2019/20	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21	HRA Budget Service Charges and Rent Setting 2021/22	Scrutiny Actions update	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21
Community Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme Nov 2020 - April 2021	Local Development Orders – Carmarthen Town Centre and Ammanford Town Centre	Housing Revenue Account – Rent setting	<del>Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21</del> Brought Forward to 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2019/20: Carmarthenshire – moved from 25 <sup>th</sup> February
Covid 19 Update reports for: Leisure Services Housing Services Regeneration Planning	Draft Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033 (provisional)	Carmarthenshire Home Standards Plus (HRA Business Plan 2021-2024)	Corporate Strategy	
	Pendine Outdoor Education Centre	<del>Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2019/20: Carmarthenshire – moved to 25<sup>th</sup> February</del>	<del>Departmental Business Plans</del> postponed to date to be confirmed	
	Pendine attractor project	Community Cohesion	<del>Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2019/20: Carmarthenshire – moved to 12<sup>th</sup> April</del>	
		Annual Performance Report – half yearly		
		Revenue Budget Consultation 2021/22 – 2023/24		

		Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21 – moved from the 25 <sup>th</sup> February		
--	--	---	--	--

**OTHER REPORTS TO BE INCLUDED:**

**TASK AND FINISH REVIEW**  
Task and Finish to be determined at a later date

**Site Visits**

- Y Stordy / Museums / Libraries – to be undertaken following any relaxation / cessation of Covid-19 pandemic rules

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
**–as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)**

**Introduction**

This plan is published to encourage and enable greater understanding between the Executive, all Councillors, the public and other stakeholders. It assists the Scrutiny Committees in planning their contribution to policy development and holding the executive to account.

The plan gives the public and stakeholders a chance to see the forthcoming major decisions to be made by the Executive Board over the next 12 months. It is reviewed and published quarterly to take account of changes and additional key decisions.

WORKING DRAFT

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
 –as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVES**

Subject area and brief description of nature of report	Responsible Officer	Executive Portfolio	Scrutiny Committee to be consulted	Date of expected decision by Executive Board
CROSS HANDS EMPLOYMENT SITE	Jason Jones – Head of Regeneration	Leader	N/A	30/11/2020
TARGETED REGENERATION INITIATIVE	Jason Jones – Head of Regeneration	Leader	N/A	30/11/2020-
BREXIT	Jason Jones, Head of Regeneration	Leader	Not applicable	21/12/2020
INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND COVER SHEET	Wendy Walters, Chief Executive/Gwyneth Ayres	Deputy Leader	No	To be confirmed
WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL REPORT	Wendy Walters, Chief Executive/Gwyneth Ayres	Culture, Sport & Tourism	June	July
WELLBEING OBJECTIVES	Wendy Walters Chief Executive	Communities and Rural Affairs		
WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS	Wendy Walters Chief Executive	Deputy Leader	If applicable	If applicable
REVIEW OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES & ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS	Wendy Walters, Chief Executive	Resources		As and when required
REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION (LEGISLATION CHANGES) - CRWG	Linda Rees Jones Head of Administration & Law	N/A CRWG - FEB	N/A	As And When Required
CITY DEAL UPDATE (INCLUDING PENTRE AWEL)	Wendy Walters Chief Executive	Leader		As & When Required
ANNUAL REPORT	Noelwyn Daniel -Head of ICT & Corporate Policy	Deputy Leader	Date to be confirmed	Date to be confirmed
NET ZERO ACTION PLAN - REVIEW	Jason Jones, Head of Regeneration	Communities and Rural Affairs	Date to be confirmed	Date to be confirmed

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
**–as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Subject area and brief description of nature of report	Responsible Officer	Executive Portfolio	Scrutiny Committee to be consulted	Date of expected decision by Executive Board
SOCIAL CARE FUNDING – COVID-19 RESPONSE	Jake Morgan - Director of Communities	Social Care & Health		
PPE - CURRENT POSITION & FUTURE NEED/UPDATE REPORT	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities / Adele Lodwig	Housing		
FOOD & FEED SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer /Sue Watts	Culture, Sports & Tourism		21/12/20
OLDER PEOPLE’S DAY SERVICES RECOVERY PLAN	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer / Alex Williams	Social Care & Health		NOV/DEC 2020
HOMELESSNESS AND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION REPORT	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer /Jonathan Willis	Housing		21/12/20
TYISHA	Robin Staines	Housing		
FUTURE PRESSURES IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE	Avril Bracey – Head of Adult Social Care	Social Care & Health		
COMMUNITY COHESION UPDATE	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and SC/Les James	Housing		11/01/21
FUTURE OF HOUSING SERVICES ADVISORY PANEL	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and SCr/Les James	Housing		11/01/21
UNIVERSAL CREDIT AND RENTS UPDATE RENT ARREARS POSITION STATEMENT	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities/ Jonathan Willis	Housing		11/01/21
ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities /Les James / Sue Watts/Robert David Williams	Culture, Sports & Tourism	E&PP Scrutiny 21/01/21	08/02/21
LD STRATEGY	Chris Harrison Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning/ Avril Bracey - Head of Adult Social Care	Social Care & Health	SC&H 27/01/21	08/02/21
CHS+ DELIVERING WHAT MATTERS BUSINESS PLAN	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities/ Rachel Davies/ Gareth Williams	Housing	18/01/21 Community Scrutiny	08/02/21 (Budget)
DOG BREEDERS LICENCE UPDATE (Change of policy/legislation)	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities/ Roger Edmunds	Public Protection		24/05/21

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
**-as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)**

Pending				
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20	Jake Morgan – Director of Communities/Silvana Sauro	Social Care & Health		TBC
2020 REVIEW OF LICENSING POLICY	Jonathan Morgan – Head of Homes and Safer Communities/ Emyr Jones	Culture, Sports & Tourism		TBC

WORKING DRAFT

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
 –as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)

<b>CORPORATE SERVICES</b>				
Subject area and brief description of nature of report	Responsible Officer	Executive Portfolio	Scrutiny Committee to be consulted	Date of expected decision by Executive Board
BI-MONTHLY REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORTS	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	SEPT NOV JAN MARCH
QUARTERLY TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	SEPT/OCT JAN APR
ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT & PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	JULY
5 YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	ALL JAN/ FEB	JAN
COUNCIL TAX BASE	Chris Moore / Helen Pugh	Resources	N/A	DEC
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	Chris Moore / Helen Pugh	Resources	N/A	FEB
BUDGET STRATEGY (Revenue and Capital)	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	ALL JAN/ FEB	JAN
HIGH STREET RATE RELIEF	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services /Helen Pugh	Resources	N/A	March
CORPORATE RISK REGISTER	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services / Helen Pugh	Resources	– Audit Committee March & SEPT	

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
 –as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)

<b>CORPORATE SERVICES</b>				
Subject area and brief description of nature of report	Responsible Officer	Executive Portfolio	Scrutiny Committee to be consulted	Date of expected decision by Executive Board
TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	22 <sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY – BUDGET MEETING
FINAL BUDGET Revenue & Capital	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	22 <sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY – BUDGET MEETING
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET AND RENT SETTING REPORT	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	HOUSING	22 <sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY BUDGET MEETING
BUDGET OUTLOOK	Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services	Resources	N/A	NOV

WORKING DRAFT



**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
 –as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)

<b>EDUCATION &amp; CHILDREN</b>				
<b>Subject area and brief description of nature of report</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Executive Portfolio</b>	<b>Scrutiny Committee to be consulted</b>	<b>Date of expected decision by Executive Board</b>
SCHOOL UPDATE REPORT- COVID 19, SCHOOLS CAUSING CONCERN AND FINANCE	Gareth Morgans – Director of Education and Children	Education & Children	N/A	
LA EDUCATION SERVICES SELF EVALUATION	Aneirin Thomas – Head of Education and Inclusion	Education & Children	tbc	To be confirmed
UPDATE ON NEW CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENTS	Aeron Rees – Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing	Education & Children	tbc	To be confirmed
POST 16 EDUCATION	Aeron Rees – Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing	Education & Children	tbc	TBC
RESULTS OF 2020 EXAMINATIONS	Aneirin Thomas – Head of Education and Inclusion	Education & Children	N/A	TBC
PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE YSGOL GYNRADD BLAENAU AND TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY AND CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT YSGOL GYNRADD LLANDYBIE (STAGE 1, 2 AND 3)	Simon Davies – Head of Access to Education	Education & Children	YES	21/12/20 (Stage 1) 10/05/21 (Stage 2) 05/07/21 (Stage 3)
ALN TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN	Aneirin Thomas – Head of Education and Inclusion	Education & Children	28/01/20	tbc
CHILDREN’S SERVICES PAPER- TBC	Stefan Smith - Head of Children’s Services	Education & Children	N/A	tbc
CARMARTHENSHIRE 10 YEAR STRATEGY FOR EDUCATION	Gareth Morgans – Director of Education and Children	Education & Children	23/11/20	October 2020
PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE YSGOL HEOL GOFFA AND TO INCREASE ITS CAPACITY (STAGE 2 AND 3)	Simon Davies – Head of Access to Education	Education & Children	YES)	21 <sup>st</sup> December
PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE YSGOL RHYDYGORS (STAGE 1, 2 AND 3)	Simon Davies – Head of Access to Education	Education & Children	YES	21/12/20 (Stage 1) 10/05/21 (Stage 2) 05/07/21 (Stage 3)
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE AT YSGOL SWISS VALLEY (TBC) (STAGE 1, 2 AND 3)	Simon Davies – Head of Access to Education	Education & Children	YES	21/12/20 (Stage 1) 10/05/21 (Stage 2) 05/07/21 (Stage 3)
PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE YSGOL GYNRADD MYNYDD Y GARREG (STAGE 1, 2 AND 3)	Simon Davies – Head of Access to Education	Education & Children	YES	21/12/20 (Stage 1) 10/05/21 (Stage 2) 05/07/21 (Stage 3)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 20/21**  
 –as at 18/11/2020 (For the period November 20 – Oct 21)

<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>				
Subject area and brief description of nature of report	Responsible Officer	Executive Portfolio	Scrutiny Committee to be consulted	Date of expected decision by Executive Board
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN DEPOSIT	Llinos Quelch- Head of Planning / Ian R Llewelyn	Planning		21 <sup>st</sup> December 20
REGIONAL TECHNICAL STATEMENT	Llinos Quelch- Head of Planning /Hugh Towns	Planning	TBC	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 20
WASTE COLLECTION STRATEGY REVIEW	Ainsley Williams. Head of Waste & Environmental Services Dan John /Geinor Lewis	Environment	TBC	Feb 2021
CARMARTHENSHIRE POLLINATOR ACTION PLAN	Llinos Quelch- Head of Planning /Rosie Carmichael	Planning	TBC	27th April 21
HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE MANUAL	Steve Pilliner - Head of Transportation & Highways/ Chris Nelson/ Richard Waters	Environment	EPP Feb 21	July 21
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	Ainsley Williams. Head of Waste & Environmental Services Rhys Davies	Environment	TBC	27 <sup>th</sup> September 21
AMR PLANNING	Llinos Quelch- Head of Planning	Deputy Leader		27 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
APR	Llinos Quelch- Head of Planning	Deputy Leader	TBC	27 <sup>th</sup> September 21
EQUESTRIAN STRATEGY	Steve Pilliner - Head of Transportation & Highways /Caroline Ferguson	Environment		25 <sup>th</sup> October 21

## COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 2 February 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor F. Akhtar (Chair)

**Councillors:**

J.M. Charles (In place of H.L. Davies), C.A. Davies, W.R.A. Davies, D.C. Evans, R.E. Evans, S.J.G. Gilasbey, B.W. Jones, H.I. Jones, S. Matthews, H.B. Shepardson, D. Thomas and G.B. Thomas

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor C.A. Campbell, Executive Board Member for Communities and Rural Affairs  
E. Dole, Leader of the Council  
L.D. Evans, Executive Board Member for Housing  
P. Hughes-Griffiths, Executive Board Member for Culture, Sport and Tourism  
D.M. Jenkins, Executive Board Member for Resources  
L.M. Stephens, Deputy Leader of the Council and Leader of the Independent Group

**The following Officers were in attendance:**

C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services  
R. Hemingway, Head of Financial Services  
J. Jones, Head of Regeneration  
I. Jones, Head of Leisure  
J. Morgan, Head of Homes & Safer Communities  
L. Quelch, Head of Planning  
A. Thomas, Group Accountant  
J. Corner, Technical Officer  
R.M. Davies, Strategic Housing Delivery Manager  
L. James, Partnership and Engagement Manager  
G. Williams, Team Leader  
S. Williams, Senior Accountant  
M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer  
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer  
R. Lloyd, Democratic Services Officer  
K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer  
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator

**Virtual Meeting - 10.00 am - 12.00 pm**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Handel Davies and Councillor H.A.L. Evans (Executive Board Member for Environment).

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM**

There were no declarations of any prohibited party whips.

The following declarations of interest were made

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
------------	---------------	--------------------

J. Gilasbey	4 – Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2021/22 to 2023/24	Trustee of Kidwelly Tinplate Museum
J Gilasbey	5 – Housing Revenue Account Budget and Housing Rent Setting for 2021/22	Family Member is a Council Tenant
J. Gilasbey	7 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21	Trustee of Kidwelly Tinplate Museum
J. Gilasbey	11 – Forthcoming Items	Executive Board Forward Work Programme – Family member is employed in education

### 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

### 4. REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION 2021/22 to 2023/24

(Note: Cllr J Gilasbey had earlier declared an interest in this item and had been granted dispensation by the Standards Committee to speak only in respect of that interest)

The Committee considered the report presented by the Executive Board Member for Resources on the Council’s Revenue Budget Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24, as endorsed by the Executive Board for consultation purposes at its meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The report provided Members with the current view of the Revenue Budget for 2021/2022 together with indicative figures for the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 financial years based on officers’ projections of spending requirements and takes account of the provisional settlement issued by Welsh Government on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020. It also reflected current departmental submissions for savings proposals after taking account of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the delivery of those savings.

The Executive Board Member advised that whilst the announced provisional settlement represented an average increase of 4.0% across Wales on the 2020/21 settlement, Carmarthenshire’s increase had been 3.8% (£10.466m) thereby taking the Aggregate External Finance to £284.820m for 2021/22 which included £244k for teachers pay.

Whilst the budget proposals assumed the full delivery of all savings proposals, together with the identification and delivery of the shortfall in savings proposals for the 2022/23, and 2023/24 financial years, further cost reductions would need to be identified for those latter years to be able to maintain the current Budget Strategy and level of Council tax.

Although the Strategy proposed a 4.89% Council Tax increase for each of the three financial years, the Executive Board had recommended the increase for 2021/22 be reduced to 4.48%, which would be considered by the Council in setting the Council Tax level for 2021/22 at its meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021. Additionally, the Welsh Government final settlement figure was to be announced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and any amendments required to be considered to the budget strategy from that announcement would also be considered by Council on

the 3<sup>rd</sup> March

The Committee thereupon considered the following detailed budget information appended to the Strategy relevant to its remit:

- **Appendix A(i)** – Efficiency summary for the Regeneration, Leisure, Planning and Non HRA Housing Services;
- **Appendix A(ii)** – Growth Pressures summary for the Regeneration and Planning Services (none for the Leisure and Non HRA Services);
- **Appendix B** – Budget monitoring report for the Regeneration, Leisure, Planning and Non HRA Housing Services;
- **Appendix C** – Charging Digest for the Regeneration, Leisure, Planning and Non HRA Housing Services;

The following questions/issues were raised on the report:-

- The Executive Board Member in response to a question on the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the collection of Council tax, advised that the Council had taken measures in that regard by extending the payment period over 12 months to the end of the 2020/21 financial year, instead of the usual 10 month payment period. The Welsh Government had also announced a 75% grant would be made available to local government in Wales to assist with any shortfall in council tax collection rates arising from the pandemic
- In response to a question on the sufficiency of the £300k pa budget provision for addressing the implications of Ash Die Back disease on council owned land, the Head of Planning confirmed the level to be sufficient to meet the council's requirements but that would be reviewed as time progressed. With regard to infected trees on private owned land, the Council was working with landowners to inform them of their responsibilities and to provide guidance where needed. The Council also had a contingency fund to undertake works in default where necessary, on a rechargeable basis.
- With regard to a question on the impact of the covid pandemic on the economy of Carmarthenshire and the level of job losses, the Head of Regeneration advised that whilst some job losses had occurred, the Government's furlough scheme had helped support employment and abate that level to date. However, it was anticipated further job losses would occur over the next few months. The Council anticipated up to 3,000 jobs could be lost within Carmarthenshire and it had adopted an action plan to help regenerate the economy by various means that included its capital programme and procurement policy which could help create approximately 2,000 jobs. It was anticipated an additional 1,000 jobs could also be created in conjunction with the Council's partners in the public and private sectors.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD/COUNCIL THAT:-**

- 4.1 The 2021/22 – 2023/24 Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation be received.**
- 4.2 The Charging Digests for the Regeneration, Leisure, Planning and Non HRA Services, as detailed in Appendix C to the report, be endorsed.**

## 5. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET AND HOUSING RENT SETTING FOR 2021/22

(NOTE: Councillor J Gilasbey having earlier declared an interest in this item left the meeting during its consideration)

The Committee considered the report presented by the Executive Board Member for Resources on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget and Housing Rent Setting for 2021/22, being presented as part of the budget consultation process that brought together the latest proposals for the Revenue and Capital budgets for the Housing Revenue Account 2021/24 to be presented to the Executive Board and Council for determination.

The Executive Board Member advised that the report had been prepared reflecting the latest proposals contained within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan, being the primary financial planning tool for delivering and maintaining the Carmarthenshire Homes Standard *Plus* (CHS+) for the future. The proposed investment within the current business plan delivered the CHS by 2015 (to those homes where the tenants agreed to have work undertaken) provided investment to maintain CHS+ and continued investment for the Authority's Affordable Homes Commitment.

The Executive Board Member reminded the Committee that with regard to the setting of the Housing Rents, the Authority had, on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015, adopted the Welsh Government's Social Housing Rent Policy for the four year period ending in 2018/19. For 2019/20, the Welsh Government had provided an interim policy while it awaited the results of the Affordable Housing Supply Review. Following that review, the Welsh Government had decided to retain the policy for a further 5 year period from 2020/21 – 2024/25 with some additional/amended requirements, as detailed within the report. The annual rent uplift (total rent envelope) would be up to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) + 1% for each of the 5 years, using the level of CPI from September of the previous year. CPI + 1% would be the maximum increase allowable in any one year but must not be regarded as an automatic uplift to be applied by social landlords and their decisions on rent should have regard to the affordability for tenants.

In applying that policy for 2021/22, the Welsh Government had notified the level of rents for individual tenants could be reduced or frozen or rise by up to an additional £2 over and above the CPI+1% on condition the total rental income collected increased by no more than CPI +1%

If the budget proposals were to be endorsed, the 2021/22 Housing Revenue Account would have an expenditure level of £51m, with the capital programme being £37.6m for 2021/22, £37.4m for 2022/23 and £30.6m for 2023/24

The following issues were raised in relation to the report:-

- In response to a question on the percentage of Council Tenants in receipt of Housing Benefit, the Committee was advised one third were paying full rent, one third partial rent and the remaining third were received full benefit. The Head of Homes and Safer Communities advised that setting rent levels represented a difficult balancing act between ensuring rises did not

adversely impact on tenants' ability to pay, whilst providing funding for the capital programme to improve the condition of the housing stock and the building of additional affordable homes

- Reference was made to the numbers of council tenants who had transferred from housing benefit to Universal Credit and to what impact that may have had on rent arrears and how that transfer was being managed.

The Executive Board Member for Housing confirmed that currently 1904 tenants had transferred to Universal Credit to date, increasing by 100 per month on average, with it being anticipated approximately 3,500 would transfer over time. Whilst current rent arrears were £1.5m, representing a £50k increase on the same time last year, it was less than anticipated and better than within other local authorities. The Council also worked with tenants on managing their transfer which included encouraging rent payment by direct debit.

- In response to a question on the decarbonisation proposals for Council homes, the Executive Board Member for Housing advised that the type and nature of work to be undertaken would vary from property to property depending on age and design and it was anticipated those works could save tenants between 60%-70% on their energy bills. While the cost of the proposals would be funded by the Council, via borrowing on capital, it was hoped the Welsh Government would provide grant aid towards those costs.
- The Head of Homes and Safer Communities confirmed that the rent increases proposed within the report only applied to council owned homes. For those homes managed by the Council, on behalf of other landlords, rental levels would be higher.

#### **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD/COUNCIL:-**

- 4.1 to increase the average housing rent as per the Welsh Government's Social Housing Rents Policy i.e.:-**
- **Properties at target rents to increase by 1.27%**
  - **Properties where rent was below target rent to increase by 1.27% plus a maximum progression of £1 per week**
  - **Properties above target rent be frozen until such time as they met the target**

**thereby producing an average housing rent increase of 1.5% (CPI + 1%) or £1.35, producing a sustainable Business Plan, maintain CHS+ and resourcing the Affordable Homes Programme, as supported by the Carmarthenshire Home Standards Steering Group;**

- 4.2 To maintain garage rents at £9.00 per week and garage bases at £2.25 per week;**
- 4.3 To apply the service charge policy to ensure tenants who received the benefit from specific services paid for those services;**

- 4.4 To increase charges for using the Council's sewerage treatment works in line with the rent increase;
- 4.5 To approve the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2021/24 (2022/23 & 2023/24 being soft budgets) as set out in Appendix A to the report;
- 4.6 To approve the proposed Capital Programme and applicable funding for 2021/22 and the indicative spends for 2022/23 to 2023/24, as set out in Appendix B to the report.

## 6. THE CARMARTHENSHIRE HOMES STANDARD PLUS (CHS+)- BUSINESS PLAN 2021-24

The Committee received a report presented by the Executive Board Member for Housing on the Carmarthenshire Homes Standards Plus (CHS+) Business Plan 2021-24, the purpose of which was fourfold. Firstly, it explained the vision and detail of the CHS+ over the next three years and what it meant for tenants. Secondly, it confirmed the financial profile, based on current assumptions for delivery of the CHS+ over the next three years. Thirdly, it showed how the housing investment programme could help stimulate the local economy and recovery from Covid 19. Fourthly, it produced a business plan for the annual application to the Welsh Government for Major Repairs Allowance (MRA) for 2020/21 equating to £6.1m.

The report highlighted the importance of the Council supporting its tenants and residents in everything it did, with the following four key themes having been identified as driving the business for the next three years:-

- Theme 1 – Supporting Tenants and Residents;
- Theme 2 – Investing in our Homes' and the Environment
- Theme 3 - Providing more homes;
- Theme 4 – Foundational Economy, Community Benefits and Procurement

The Following questions/issues were raised on the report:

- The Executive Board Member in response to a question on void levels within the authority's 9,200 homes, advised there were approximately 340 voids at present. Those properties required differing levels of work and efforts were being undertaken to reduce the total voids as quickly as possible. However, the covid pandemic had impacted on the speed and timescale for those works, especially during the initial 3 month period of the pandemic when contractors were unable to work on site.
- With regard to a question on the impact of the pandemic on the council's house building programme, the Executive Board Member confirmed that, as with the voids, delays had been encountered initially from contractors not being able to attend on site and subsequently from delays in the supply of building materials following the easing of the lockdown. Works were now progressing, however, and it was hoped the programme would return to schedule in the near future.
- The Executive Board Member confirmed the Council's House Building programme aimed to address the shortage of housing in both rural and urban areas and work was currently ongoing on the development of a further 21 sites throughout the county.
- In response to a question on homelessness levels with the County, the



Executive Board Member advised that in March 2020 the Welsh Government had placed a duty on all Welsh Local Housing Authorities to house the homeless, including the single homeless. While homeless levels were increasing, 117 people had currently presented themselves to the Council as homeless, 100 of whom were single persons, and the Council was working with them to address their housing requirements, which included providing advice and guidance on managing a successful tenancy

She further commented on the increase in single homelessness within the County which had highlighted a shortfall in accommodation provision for single persons within the Council's housing stock, and advised that would be taken into consideration as part of the Council's future house building proposals.

- In response to a question on the creation of a 10 year Affordable Housing and Regeneration Masterplan, the Committee was advised that whilst their launch had initially been planned for March 2020, that had been delayed due to the Covid pandemic. Work was now progressing on their re-launch in the near future

**RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD/COUNCIL TO:-**

- 6.1 Confirm the vision of the CHS+, the Council's new build programme, the financial and delivery programmes over the next three years;**
- 6.2 Confirm the submission of the 2021/22 Business Plan to the Welsh Government;**
- 6.3 Note the principles behind moving towards carbon neutral homes and developing a decarbonisation strategy to support that;**
- 6.4 Note the importance of the investment included in the Plan and its role in stimulating the local economy and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.**

**7. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/21**

(Note: Cllr J Gilasbey had earlier declared an interest in this item and had been granted dispensation by the Standards Committee to speak only in respect of that interest)

The Committee considered a report presented by the Executive Board Member for Resources on the 2020/21 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring reports for the Housing, Regeneration, Planning and Leisure and Recreation Services for the period up to the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2020. It was noted that the revenue budget was forecasting a £293k overspend, the capital budget a £44,381k underspend, whilst the Housing Revenue Account was forecasting a £2,784k underspend.

The following questions/issues were raised on the report:-

- In response to a question on the current position on Carmarthen Mart, the Executive Board Member for Resources advised that tender documents would be issued shortly with it being anticipated a new tenant could be in place within several months.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report be received.**

**8. 2020/21 HALF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT (1ST APRIL TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020) RELEVANT TO THIS SCRUTINY**

The Committee received the 2020/21 Half Year Performance Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 presented by the Executive Board Members – Leader, Deputy Leader, Housing and Culture, Sport and Tourism in respect of the areas falling within their portfolios and the Committees remit.

The report detailed the progress made against the actions and measures in the Corporate Strategy 2020/12 on the delivery of the Well-Being Objectives within the Committee's remit. It was noted that due to the covid pandemic, Departmental Action plans for 2020/21 were not being monitored to allow services to concentrate on dealing with emergencies but that a half year Covid 19 pandemic Community Impact Assessment had been produced in lieu. An annual report for 2020/21 would also be produced on the Corporate Well-being Objectives

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.**

**9. COMMUNITY COHESION ACTION PLAN**

The Committee considered a report presented by the Executive Board Member for Communities and Rural Affairs providing an overview of the Community Cohesion Regional Plan and seeking its endorsement of the Action Plan attached thereto.

The Executive Board Member advised that Carmarthenshire was the host authority for receiving Welsh Government grant for the Mid and West Wales region comprising the local authorities of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys. The Action Plan had four main themes together with several key objectives i.e.:-

- Theme A – Identifying and mitigating community tensions (hate crime, extremism, anxiety and anti-social behaviour) relating to Brexit;
- Theme B – Foster Good Relations;
- Theme C – Ensure Equality of Opportunity;
- Theme D – Administration and Reporting to support work under themes A-C.

The Executive Board Member provided examples of the work undertaken under the Community Cohesion Plan and advised that a revised action plan would be produced by March 2021 for the 2021/22 financial year as part of Welsh Government grant conditions.

The following questions/issues were raised on the report:-

- In response to a question on funding and the United Kingdom's recent withdrawal from the European Union, the Executive Board Member advised that previous grant funding had been received from the Welsh Government and it was hoped it would announce its continuance in March 2021

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Mid and West Wales Community Cohesion Action Plan be endorsed.**

**11. FORTHCOMING ITEMS**

(Note: Cllr J Gilasbey had earlier declared an interest in this item and had been granted dispensation by the Standards Committee to speak only in respect of that interest)

The Committee considered a list of forthcoming items to be considered at its next scheduled meeting to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 be noted.**

**10. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT**

The Committee received an explanation for the non-submission of the following scrutiny report:-

- Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the explanation for the non-submission be noted.**

**12. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER 2020**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 be signed as a correct record.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

This page is intentionally left blank