



2.00pm, Tuesday 29 September 2020  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Name	Organisation
Barry Liles (Chair)	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Cllr Emlyn Dole	Carmarthenshire County Council
Huwel Manley	Natural Resources Wales
Prof. Jean White	Welsh Government
Ruth Mullen	Carmarthenshire County Council
Julian Atkins	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Kevin Jones	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Supt Ifan Charles	Dyfed Powys Police
Marie Mitchell	Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services
Menna Davies	Department for Work and Pensions
Anna Bird	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Maria Battle	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Carys Morgans	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

**In attendance**

Name	Organisation
Gwyneth Ayers	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kate Harrop	Carmarthenshire County Council
Wendy Phillips	Carmarthenshire County Council
Jane Lewis	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kris Kingsley	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Beth Cossins	Public Health Wales
Delyth Jones	Llanelli Town Council
Gary Jones	Llanelli Town Council
Arfon Davies	Llanelli Town Council
Cllr Michael Theodoulou	Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council
Louise Robinson	Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council
Huw Thomas	Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Barry Liles, Chair of the PSB welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and guests were introduced.

Apologies	
Name	Organisation
Ros Jervis	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Christine Harley	National Probation Service
Cllr Jan Curtice	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Authority
Andrew Cornish	Coleg Sir Gâr
Martyn Palfreman	West Wales Regional Partnership Board
Ros Jervis	Hywel Dda University Health Board

## 2. Town & Community Council Annual Reports

### Llanelli Town Council

Gary Jones, Llanelli Town Council Clerk, commented that they have embedded the aspect of the WBFGA and the five ways of working into their day to day work. A Community Development Officer has been employed for over 15 years and works closely with a number of other organisations in the area. The Council's objectives are driven by community need and is a bottom up process.

The report was presented by Delyth Jones, Community Development Officer, who highlighted the following points:

- An agreed work programme is developed annually and reviewed six monthly. These have been included as annexes to the report. All aspects of the work programme are considered to ensure it supports the priorities of the act.
- Examples of engagement was provided which includes Tyisha Regeneration Steering Group, Business Improvement District, Task Force Group, Carmarthenshire Community Partnership and Unloved Heritage (Youth Support Services, Coedcae School and Dyfed Archaeological Trust)
- Covid-19 has impacted the way community engagement is undertaken.

Barry Liles commended the Unloved Heritage work and stated that UWTSD has strong links to heritage and archaeology and would be happy to provide contact details of appropriate individuals. Ruth Mullen also offered links with the Towy Valley Heritage Centre who provide practical training.

Huwel Manley commented that the Town and Community Councils work well together particularly around the tree planting programme. Delyth added that Llanelli Town Council have set up a butterfly garden and have three tree projects in the pipeline.

### Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council

Louise Robinson, Community Development Officer presented the report:

- The objective of the Council is to improve the quality of life for the residents in addition to the statutory duties.
- During 2019/20, the Council was awarded Best in Wales for Community Engagement from One Voice Wales.

- Multi agency working has seen the Council develop strong relationships.

Barry Liles congratulated the Council for the award from One Voice Wales. Ruth Mullen commended the Buy Local Christmas initiative.

Huwel Manley enquired whether there could be more collaboration with NRW as owners of Pembrey Forest. Michael Theodoulou responded that this would be welcomed.

Delyth Jones commented that the collaboration between the seven Town and Community Councils (T&CC) and Carmarthenshire County Council is unique across Wales and is seen as an exemplar. Gwyneth Ayers thanked both Councils for their presentation and that the time investment into engagement is beneficial to everyone.

#### **ACTION**

Ensure link between Louise Robinson and Huwel Manley	Gwyneth Ayers
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### **3. Minutes and Matters Arising:**

6 July 2020

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

#### Action Log

Gwyneth Ayers provided updates on the previous actions.

Action 14 – Marie Mitchell informed that GamCare will be contacting the Support Team directly with information on training and support.

Ruth Mullen enquired whether Action 7 should be extended to include links with the Local Resilience Forum – this was agreed.

Julian Atkins enquired how the County Council and Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council are working together on active travel and sustainable transport with the key asset of the Millennium Coastal Park. Ruth Mullen responded that she will put Julian in contact with Simon Charles who leads on the active travel programme and sustainable transport. Huwel Manley commented that the City Deal is looking at EV opportunities across the region, including infrastructure needs. Julian added that the BBNPA have done quite a bit in relation to EV charging point installations on its own estate.

#### **ACTION**

To link in with Simon Charles on the Council's Active Travel Work	Ruth Mullen & Julian Atkins
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#### 4. A Skills Analysis of the Effects of Covid-19 on Carmarthenshire

Jane Lewis provided a presentation on the report submitted to WG in July.

- 574 businesses were contacted directly and a further 422 businesses took part in an online survey. This provided a lot of information on the impact of Covid on businesses.
- Main finding was the need to upskill in digital and ICT across the majority of sectors.
- There is a mixed picture in terms of future demand for apprenticeships.
- Businesses require additional support around digital/IT, legal, HR, financial and insurance queries. Business Wales is trying to address this.
- Carmarthenshire has the third highest level of self-employment in Wales.
- The Carmarthenshire take-up for Self-Employment Income Support Scheme was 75%, this is lower than the Wales average of 78%.
- The furlough rate in Carmarthenshire is 30%, this is one percent higher than the Wales average. It is not known what impact the end of the furlough scheme will have on redundancies.
- The claimant rate for Carmarthenshire is 5.7% compared to 6.3% and 6.5% for Wales and the UK respectively.
- Job postings in August were higher than those seen during the same period the last four years.
- Another report is due to be submitted to WG by the end of October which will include detail on redundancy rates, impact of furlough, immediate skills training needs, areas of growth and decline and impact on hospitality industry.

Barry Liles commented that he was disappointed in the impact on apprenticeships and that the 16-24 age group is the worst affected in recessions.

Menna Davies added that it is positive that there are more job postings this August compared to previous years with a particular increase in retail employment and delivery drivers. However, there was an increase of 286 households on Universal Credit between July and August.

Julian Atkins commented that Powys PSB have written a similar report on the impact on health and social care, these reports together gives a good picture on the impact on rural communities. Jane Lewis advised that, as they are a regional partnership, a similar report has been done for Powys.

#### ACTION

To provide further update on Skills at the next meeting	Jane Lewis
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#### 5. Kickstart Programme

Menna Davies provided a presentation on the Kickstart Programme.

- Kickstart Job Creation Scheme is Kickstart is a £2b scheme and will create hundreds of thousands of new, fully subsidised jobs for young people across the country. It was launched on 2 September with applications opening for employers wanting to offer placements. In South West Wales 352 employers signed up with 7,000 jobs over the last 2 weeks.
- The hardest hit age group is the 16-24 year olds with four times more of this age group currently on Universal Credit compared to this time last year.

- The scheme provides work placement opportunities to 16-24 year olds on Universal Credit and at risk of long term unemployment. They will be offered 6 months' work placement for 25 hrs/week at national minimum wage. Guidance is available on Gov.uk.
- The criteria for employers are that they recruit more than 30 people over the lifetime of the of the initiative which currently end December 2021. Bids can be submitted directly online. Businesses who want to recruit less than 30 can partner with others to reach the required 30 people.
- An upfront grant of £1,500 is provided for each person employed to cover training etc.
- Kickstart job placements will be loaded onto the Universal Credit platform. Work Coaches will also refer suitable candidates to employers.
- A list of organisations/businesses that have expressed an interest can be found on Gov.UK

#### ACTION

Link to kickstart page to be circulated

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme>

Menna Davies

#### 6. Natural Resources Wales – funding allocation for PSB projects

Huwel Manley stated that NRW had made £25,000 available for each PSB in Wales to use towards the well-being objectives, particularly delivery of environmental projects. It is hoped that this will be the first of three years of funding.

The Healthy Environment Delivery Group discussed potential projects at their last meeting which included:

1. Jackson's Lane multifunctional green space – a study looking at Green Infrastructure in the area to include improvements in air quality and tree planting.
2. Newcastle Emlyn climate change mitigation – regeneration of the town in a sustainable way which was badly hit by storm Callum.
3. Tree planting programme working with the seven Town and Community Councils.

Proposals receiving members approval will be submitted to NRW. Other proposals can be submitted as a reserve projects.

Anna Bird enquired whether the funding for a subsequent year could be pooled regionally to kick start the work on social and green solutions for health which is a joint priority for the three PSBs, also working with the RPB. Huwel agreed that this was an excellent suggestion for the next financial year and added that there may be other funding available to carry out the work. Beth Cossins added that the next six months could be used to develop a stronger commissioning framework to for the funding.

Huwel also requested that he be informed of blocks of available land, 5 acres upwards, outside of community council areas for larger scale programmes.

**ACTION**

Suggestions for land (other than community council owned) for large scale woodland development to contact Huwel Manley	All
Developing agreed projects for presentation to NRW	PSB Support Team

**7. Regional Partnership Board update**

Anna Bird provided the following update on work of RPB:

- WG issued a statement on 24 August confirming the extension of the Integrated Care Fund and the Transformation Fund through until April 2022. They have subsequently confirmed that existing Transformation Fund programmes will be supported at current levels for the extended funding period. Details around the Integrated Care Fund projects and allocation is still awaited.
- A review of the Transformation Programme has been commissioned with a report due in the coming weeks, this will be shared with members in due course.
- Directives were sent out to RPBs at the end of August setting out a range of planning and reporting requirements. The RPBs annual reports are due to be published by 15 October and there has been a request to provide an update to the population needs assessment that was undertaken in 2017, reflecting on any significant changes or differences in needs that are anticipated for care and support.

Gwyneth added that the PSB will need to update its well-being assessment and with the PSB's approval would like to align the process with the RPBs population needs update as much as possible. This was agreed.

**ACTION**

Link with RPB to ensure co-ordinated approach to undertaking population needs assessment and well-being needs assessment	PSB Support Team
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**8. Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan – future priorities**

Gwyneth Ayers stated that future PSB priorities have been discussed at previous meetings along with a stocktake on the effects of Covid and how the county recovers from it. A table was presented at the last meeting on what the delivery groups have considered and the priorities identified in discussions. A column has been added to that table with proposed areas of focus going forward. A summary was provided.

Julian Atkins commented that there is a need to strengthen the strand on climate emergency which has two sub elements:

- Decarbonisation – Powys are carrying out work to identify the scale of the task in decarbonising a rural county council and have done some work in terms of the proportion of emissions from agriculture, industry, housing and transport. There are big challenges around transport.
- Nature recovery and biodiversity loss – would be useful to have an oversight of all the work being done.

Ruth Mullen commented on the priority of shared use hubs in town centre areas which has been on the agenda for a while. Covid has prompted us to look at this seriously, particularly will properties becoming empty in our town centres which gives real opportunity on sharing properties. She added that she is aware that a Deputy Minister has made a strong statement about supporting the shared use of hubs in town centres for different reasons which fit in with our other priorities, this will also lead to less travelling and fit with reduced carbon agenda.

ACTION	
Circulate Social and Green Solutions for Health Conference Report	Beth Cossins
Further detail on agreed Future Priorities to be discussed at the next meeting	PSB Support Team

### 9. Regional PSB & RPB meeting – 4 November 2020

Kate Harrop informed that our next meeting was due on 4 November but will now be a Regional PSB & RPB Meeting hosted by Ceredigion.

The following draft agenda has been developed and a request made to consider additional items for inclusion:

- Presentation by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) – PCC wrote to the PSBs requesting to attend a meeting to update on projects and achievement during his term of office and identify further opportunities to work together.
- Digital platform update – regional data sharing platforms is Welsh Government funded and contributed to by Regional Partnership Board (RPB). WriteMedia will give a short demonstration to see how it will help with the next well-being assessment plans, engagement, assessing our performance and how we share and collecting data. There may also be an update on the Engagement Digital System from the Health Board.
- A presentation on local resilience response to Covid
- RPB funding streams

Suggestions for any additional agenda items are to be sent to the PSB Support Team.

Anna Bird suggested breakout rooms where members can choose which presentation to attend. This will be put to the Ceredigion PSB Support Team.

Huwel Manley commented that one topic missing from the agenda is social and green prescribing.

ACTION	
Any additional agenda item suggestions for the Regional PSB & RPB meeting on 4 November to inform the PSB Support Team	All
To re-arrange 4 November Carmarthenshire PSB meeting to end of November/early December	PSB Support Team

**10. Any Other Business**

There was no other business raised.