

COUNTY COUNCIL

13/10/21

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020/21

Cabinet Recommendations:

That the Council's Annual Report for 2020/21 be approved.

Reasons:

- Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 we must publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October each year.
- Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 we are required to publish an Annual Report on our Well-being Objectives.
- This report meets both these requirements in one document.

Relevant scrutiny committee consulted:

Community and Regeneration Scrutiny	1 st July
Environment and Public Protection Scrutiny	2 nd July
Social Care and Health Scrutiny	7 th July
Education and Children's Services Scrutiny	8 th July
Policy and Resources Scrutiny	21 st July

Cabinet Decision Required: Yes (27th September 2021)

Council Decision Required: Yes (13th October 2021)

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Mair Stephens (Deputy Leader) and Cllr Ann Davies (Communities and Rural Affairs)

Directorate Chief Executive's Noelwyn Daniel Report Author Robert James	Designations: Head of ICT & Corporate Policy Performance Management Officer	Tel Nos./ E Mail Addresses: 01267 246270 NDaniel@carmarthenshire.gov.uk 01267 224486 RNJames@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNTY COUNCIL
13/10/21**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020/21**

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

2020/21 was a year like no other due to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The vast majority of the Council's services had to adapt and change, with many being shut down completely for long periods of the year. For this reason, it is not possible for the 2020-21 Annual Report to act as a progress report on previous performance or as a comparator with other local authorities. This year was like no other and much of the report reflects the actions the Council had to take to support its residents, communities and businesses through the pandemic. With many staff being redeployed to assist in the pandemic response and many set to work to aid recovery the Council's priorities had to shift significantly to face the challenges presented by the pandemic. For these reasons, the Annual Report for 2020-21 has a different focus and approach to previous reports.

- Many of the actions and targets we set for 2020/21 were blindsided by the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and we had to deal with the emergency in hand. An initial COVID-19 Community Impact Assessment was published in September 2020 and individual services reported their responses to Scrutiny Committees in the November / December 2020 cycle of meetings. We will when appropriate update the Community Impact Assessment on COVID-19 within Carmarthenshire.
- The Annual Report starts with an overview of our COVID-19 Year and outlines some key responses and impacts.
- The Annual Report then looks in turn at each of our 15 Well-being Objectives and assesses the progress and adaptations that have been made during this difficult year.

COVID-19

We have a statutory duty to publish an Annual Report for 2020-21 by the 31st October 2021. There has been no relaxation on this statutory duty despite the pandemic. It is not possible to provide as much in-depth analysis and evaluation as we have done in previous years due to the gathering some performance information not being gathered nationally as services focused on pandemic response. There are also some gaps in information that we would usually provide. For instance, Welsh Government has confirmed that comparative out-turn data will not be published for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 period.

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: Noelwyn Daniel - Head of ICT and Corporate Policy

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

To comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (WbFG) Act 2015, we must (in carrying out sustainable development):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set and publish well-being objectives • Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives • Publish a statement about well-being objectives 	Corporate Strategy update published – June 2019, and further updated in May 2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish an annual report of progress 	
This will be accomplished by the enclosed Annual Report	

Only when a public body can demonstrate it has taken into account the sustainable development principle in the setting, taking steps and meeting of its well-being objectives will it be compliant with the Act. Public bodies may take other matters into account when making their decisions, but in order to comply with the Act they must take into account the 5 ways of working.

1. Long term
2. Integrated
3. Involving
4. Collaborative
5. Preventative

2. Legal

We have to publish our Annual Report by the 31st October to comply with the Local Government Measure 2009.

This is the last year that we will be reporting under the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 as this is being replaced by the duties of Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 in future years.

3. Finance

Well-being Objective 15 - Building a Better Council and Making Better use of Resources covers financial matters.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Noelwyn Daniel** - Head of ICT and Corporate Policy

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

All Departments have been consulted and have had the opportunity to provide comments on their performance and progress.

Public Consultation

- As in previous years we consulted with the public on the set of Well-being Objectives as part of budget consultation.
- Analysis of the results showed agreement for the objectives.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
The Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009	https://gov.wales/local-government-measure-2011-guidance
Statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. SPSF2: Individual Public Body Role	SPSF2:Individual Public Body Role
June 2019 - Corporate Strategy	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1219049/corporate-strategy-revised-2019-20.pdf