



2pm, Tuesday, 23 January 2024

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Carmarthen

MINUTES

Present	
Name	Organisation
Councillor Darren Price (Chair)	Carmarthenshire County Council
Andrew Cornish	Coleg Sir Gâr
Mydrian Harries	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor John Davies	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Andrew Hood	Natural Resources Wales
Dr Michael Thomas	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Gwilym Dyfri Jones	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Marie Mitchell	Carmarthenshire Voluntary Services Association
Andrew Charles	Welsh Government

Present	
Name	Organisation
Caryl Jones	Future Generations Leadership Academy
Meri Huws	Strategic County Forum on the Welsh language
Gwyneth Ayers	Carmarthenshire County Council
Amy Richmond Jones	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Llinos Evans	Carmarthenshire County Council

1. Welcome, Presentations and Apologies

Apologies	
Name	Organisation
Christine Harley	Probation Service
Catherine Mealing-Jones	Brecon Beacons National Park
Jason Jones	Carmarthenshire County Council
Carys Morgans	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Kevin James	Department for Work and Pensions
Linda Jones	Regional Partnership Board
Kate Harrop	Carmarthenshire County Council

Councillor Darren Price, as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Future Generations Leadership Academy

Caryl Jones was welcomed to the meeting to present the Future Generations Leadership Academy, of which she is a part. The Academy is facilitated by the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner and Caryl is one of a cohort of 30 following the programme until March 2024.

The Academy aims to create Future Generation leaders, who promote and shape the implementation of the Well-being of Future Generations Act across Wales.

The leadership element of the academy is led by Elevate BC, and as part of this, there is an opportunity to develop an individual action plan for a specific work area or sector.

Examples of the resources that have been given were shared with members and Caryl noted that she would base her action plan on the Atom Centre's five-year strategy, to ensure community participation. As part of this, members of the Public Service Board were invited to participate and an invitation to a community evening will be circulated, in due course.

CJ highlighted the development of Cymru Can, which is the Future Generations Commissioner's vision for the period 2023-40. The five missions are as follows –

- Implementation and impact
- Climate and nature
- Health and Well-being
- Culture and the Welsh language
- Well-being economy

In closing the presentation, CJ urged the organisations that make up the Public Service Board to consider supporting or sponsoring an individual to be part of the cohort for the 2024 Academy.

Members thanked Caryl for her enthusiasm and for sharing the positive messages from the scheme.

As part of the discussion, Andrew Charles explained that the Welsh Government was working closely with the Commissioner on the programme and that the Permanent Secretary had invited three members of the Academy, who work in Welsh Government, to support the nurturing of people to implement the Act within the organisation.

Following a question from Andrew Cornish, it was agreed to circulate further information about the scheme and the application process. It was also agreed to look at the possibility of organising sessions at local level, so that more officers could be reached within Public Service Board bodies.

Michael Thomas questioned how data is used in the implementation of the five Cymru Can missions and noted that detailed data would be available via Health research led through ARCH, on a regional basis.

It was agreed to create a link between this work and the Commissioner's office and to arrange for MT to provide a presentation to the Public Service Board in the future.

ACTION	
Extend an invitation to Public Service Board members to a community engagement evening.	Caryl Jones
Circulate information about the Future Leaders Academy Scheme	PSB Support Team

Create a link between Dr Michael Thomas and the research through ARCH with the office of the Future Generations Commissioner	PSB Support Team
Organise a presentation by Dr Michael Thomas at a future Public Service Board meeting	PSB Support Team

Wellbeing Objective: To help create bilingual, safe and diverse communities
3. Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2023-2028

Meri Huws was welcomed to the meeting in her role as Chair of the Welsh Language Strategic County Forum, Carmarthenshire.

The context of the forum's work was explained to members and it was noted that the PSB bodies, apart from Natural Resources Wales were represented on the forum.

The Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2023-28 was launched at the Urdd Eisteddfod, Llandovery in 2023. All forum partners have co-designed the Strategy and are now moving forward in preparing an action plan for each objective.

MH noted examples of projects led by the forum, including the Welcome Pack and the Welsh in Business information pack.

The results of the 2021 Census have brought renewed focus to the forum's work, after numbers of Welsh speakers fell in the county, once again.

To that end, the forum has set the following goal:

"Aiming to make Welsh the main language in a county. Restore Welsh to a language consistently spoken and used by the majority of our residents, and in all walks of life."

The forum is keen to support the PSB with the objective of "Helping to create bilingual, safe and diverse communities" and to identify the opportunities and challenges for the Language in the county.

As part of the discussion, the following points were noted:

- MH asked PSB members to check in with representatives of their organisations, who sit on the County Forum
- Support was offered to the bodies as they work on strategic plans and in assessing potential impact on the Welsh language / developing mitigation actions where necessary
- It was agreed to hold an annual joint workshop, to look at progress and future steps, based on data
- That there are opportunities to work together as bodies on workforce planning and the Language skills we need in order to deliver services.

Following the discussion, Andrew Cornish noted that recruitment to jobs requiring skills in Welsh is difficult, citing Agricultural Engineering in particular. He set out his desire to ensure that there was a better Welsh-medium learning experience in the post-16 field and that the organisations sought to plan strategically together.

Members reiterated that all PSB partners are keen to see our young people stay in the county and that there is a link between the Language, economic activity and opportunities.

Michael Thomas noted that he would be keen to learn more about the language impact assessment and how this can be woven with the health impact assessment. It was agreed that Michael Thomas and Meri Huws will have a further conversation about this.

Councillor John Davies stressed the impact of land planning and development on the Welsh language and noted his regret at the decline of industries such as agriculture, which have been the backbone of the Welsh language over the years. Changes in these industries will lead to a very different demographic challenge and a risk of shrinking our Welsh-speaking communities even further.

ACTION	
Hold an annual joint workshop, to look at progress and future steps, based on data	County Strategic Forum PSB Support Team
Hold a conversation to discuss the language impact assessment and the health impact assessment.	Dr Michael Thomas and Meri Huws

Well-being Objective: To ensure a sustainable economy and equitable employment

4. Update from Task and Finish Group

There was an update on the work of the group and it was noted that the following officers had been nominated –

Rebecca Jones (Coleg Sir Gâr); Karen Fairhurst (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service); Alison Wood (Carmarthenshire County Council); Mark Sabine (Natural Resources Wales); Rhianydd Barnes (Regional Partnership Board); Clare Steel (Hywel Dda University Health Board).

It was noted that a number of local/regional groups were already looking at future workforce issues and that there was a need to avoid duplication and ensure a consistent approach.

Most organisations identified an opportunity for greater collaboration across PSB organisations in promoting public sector career/work opportunities within local schools.

It was agreed to focus at the next meeting on outlining the recruitment challenges of individual organisations with a view to identifying areas for potential cross-agency collaboration to address.

ACTION	
Prepare a written update by the March meeting of the PSB.	PSB Support Team.

Well-being Objective: Tackling poverty and its effects

5. Update from Task and Finish Group

Two meetings of the task group were held and finished. Following feedback from members, the group has invited Kelly White, who leads on the Prevention Strategy to join.

A separate meeting as been held with Trina Nealon from Public Health to understand more about the formal framework of MECC and how we can prepare recommendations for members going forward. There is a national group administered by Public Health Wales and Trina is a member, therefore, the group will be able to receive updates in terms of the work at Welsh level to consider how we move forward locally.

The national framework is focused on increasing the capacity of teams to hold wellbeing conversations and to make sure important information about health and wellbeing reaches individuals in our communities. As part of the next meeting, we will be looking at the training opportunities / requirements to qualify to hold these conversations, again, in order to prepare recommendations for you to consider as a Board.

In terms of the Hub element, the group maps out the advice and support services provided by each organisation – the group has already identified new opportunities with Natural Resources Wales in terms of the emergency information pages and how we can direct people to local emergency information on the County Council website, for example.

There are already a number of positive working relationships in place but there is now an opportunity to formalise those and monitor further in terms of the individuals reaching our services.

At the next meeting on 31 January the group will look at recent case studies from Hwb Fach y Wlad, where there are potential opportunities for sharing the knowledge of Public Service Board bodies through those officers.

ACTION	
Prepare a written update by the March meeting of the PSB.	PSB Support Team.

Well-being Objective: Responding to climate and nature crises
6. Increase collaboration on Electric Vehicle EV Charging infrastructure in public sector settings

It was noted that Mydrian Harries had offered to chair the group and had been involved in work through Powys Public Service Board to develop a service level agreement.

The first meeting of the task group and finish is scheduled on the 2nd of February. Members were asked to send other nominations through to sit on the group.

Members were asked to send information about the locations of the charging points they have as an organisation so that they can be mapped geographically.

The group will also look at the work that has been done through the EARTH (Economic Acceleration and Regeneration Through Innovation) project, based on the Swansea Bay City Deal region, to look at electric charging infrastructure and what is needed in fleet design.

ACTION	
Prepare a written update by the March meeting of the PSB.	PSB Support Team.
Members to forward nominations for the Task & Finish group on EV Charging Infrastructure	Members
Members to send information on the EV locations they have in place (to include as much technical detail as possible)	Members

7. Minutes and action log

Minutes 28 November 2023

The records were accepted as a true record.

Action Log

Updates on previous actions have been provided.

9. Any other business

PSB Annual Event

Members agreed, due to the fact that we are early in the process of implementing the Well-being Plan, not to hold an annual event and consider the situation again in 2025.

Promotional / live experience videos

Members agreed to use the video time to prepare an insight into the work of the PSB over the year.

ACTION

Start planning work to prepare a video to promote the work of the PSB over the year.	PSB Support Team
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10. Future meetings

- 19 March 2024 (Teams)
- 14 May 2024 - Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Carmarthen