

**Powys County Council
Governance and Audit Committee**

Committee:	Governance and Audit Committee
Date:	Friday 29 th September 2023
Subject:	Audit Wales Report – Powys County Council Setting of Well-being Objectives

1. Who will be the Lead Officer(s) / Lead Cabinet Member(s) presenting the report?

Name:	Role:
Emma Palmer	Director of Corporate Services
Cllr. James Gibson-Watt	Leader and Cabinet Member for an Open and Transparent Powys

2. Why is the Committee being asked to consider the subject?

This item is for information only.

As part of the Council’s statutory duties when preparing well-being objectives, presented via the Corporate and Strategic Equality Plan “[Stronger, Fairer, Greener](#)”, Audit Wales has a responsibility to ensure that the Council has acted in accordance with the [sustainable development principle](#) and is maximising its contribution to the [Wales Well-being goals](#), as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

This audit activity was undertaken in Spring 2023, with the final report now published and available [here](#).

The findings of the Audit was, “The Council has applied the Sustainable Development Principle in setting its Well-being Objectives (WBOs). However, it should draw on more diverse citizen views and fully embed its new monitoring arrangements”, which has led to the below recommendation:

The Council should continue to build on the progress it has made in applying the sustainable development principle in the setting and delivery of its wellbeing objectives by:

- improving how it draws on the views of the full diversity of its citizens in designing of its future WBOs and in delivering its current WBOs;

- ensuring the future iterations of its MTFP clearly show how the Council's resources will be prioritised to deliver its WBO's and also how current and future savings targets or known future financial risks might impact the delivery of its WBOs; and
- ensuring that its new Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework and Corporate Reporting Dashboard are embedded quickly to enable it to effectively monitor progress on its WBOs.

3. Role of the Committee:

- To be aware of Audit Wales findings surrounding this review of the Corporate and Strategic Equality Plan's Well-being objectives
- To be assured that the appropriate improvement activity has been identified to address this recommendation (whilst noting there are wider contextual challenges, particularly surrounding public engagement with democracy)

Key Feeders (tick all that apply)

Strategic Risk		Cabinet Work Plan	
Director / Head of Service Key Issue		External / Internal Inspection	X
Existing Commitment / Annual Report		Performance / Finance Issue	
Suggestion from Public		Referral from Council / Committee	
Corporate Improvement Plan	X	Impacting Public / other services	
Service Integrated Business Plan	X		
Suggestion from Members			
Partnerships			

Key Impact (tick all that apply)

Policy Review	X	Performance	X
Informing Policy Development	X	Evidence Gathering	X
Risk	X	Corporate Improvement Plan	X
Service Integrated Business Plan	X	Partnerships	
Pre-Decision Scrutiny		Finance / Budget	