

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD HELD BY TEAMS ON THURSDAY, 17 MARCH 2022 AT 10:00AM

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

In Attendance:

County Councillor M R Harris PCC (Chair)
Caroline Turner (Chief Executive Officer PCC)
Viv Harpwood (Chair PTHB)
Nigel Brinn (Executive Director PCC)
Dr Alison Merry (Consultant of Public Health, PTHB)
Iwan Cray (Assistant Chief Fire Officer, MWWFRS)
Amy Richmond-Jones (MWWFRS)
Derrick Pugh (representing One Voice Wales)
Claire Rumsby (Employer & Partnership Manager, DWP)
Councillor Kelvyn Watson Curry (MWWFRS)
Ann Weedy (Operations Manager, NRW)
Ann Watkin (Welsh Government)
Councillor Liz Rijnenberg (PSB Scrutiny)
Chief Inspector Jacqui Lovatt (Dyfed Powys Police) (from 10:20am)
Elgan Hearn (Local Democracy Reporter)

Supporting:

Hayley Hughes (PCC)
Catherine James (PCC)
James Langridge-Thomas (PCC)
Emma Palmer (PCC)

Apologies:

Carl Cooper (Chief Executive PAVO)
Catherine Mealing-Jones (Brecon Beacons National Park Authority)
Christine Harley (HM Prisons & Probation Service)
Duncan Hamer (Welsh Government)
Carol Shillabeer (Chief Executive PTHB)
Huw Patrick (One Voice Wales)
Gavin Bown (NRW)

2. POWYS PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD: WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT 2022
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2.1. Well-being Assessment 2022

2.2. Draft Population Needs Assessment 2022

The Board received the Well-being Assessment which is developed as part of the requirement of the Act. Both assessments highlight where Powys PSB and RPB need to focus. The report proposes that the Well-being Assessment is received as a key evidence base on which the statutory well-being plan will be developed and the Population Needs Assessment is received for information and will provide the evidence base on which the statutory regional joint action plan will be developed. Both assessments will also inform each organisation's corporate planning arrangements and will be communicated widely with town and community councils and will be made available in local libraries, leisure centres and public receptions; it will also be available via the internet and promoted through media channels.

The PSB Board were asked for their endorsement and approval of the Well-being Assessment 2022.

A small number of amendments were suggested to some typos and suggestion was made for producing an Executive Summary to make for an easier read or whether social media/video could be produced to summarise the essence of the assessment. It was noted that these will be taken on board.

The Well-being Assessment was approved by the PSB Board.

The Leader and PSB board members expressed their gratitude to staff for compiling this together.

3. PSB ANNUAL REPORT - TIMELINES

The Board received a proposed timeline for the Annual Performance report approach. The intention is that a written report will be published by July 2022. It is suggested that templates will be issued to each of the Step Leads during April (asking what have been worked on; what's the plan for next year; what challenges were faced). The team in Powys will then compile the overall annual report on behalf of the PSB and will seek sign-off in June to be published by July, in line with statutory timescales. As part of the overall evaluation, an element of self-evaluation will be included so should be a more comprehensive annual report to previous versions and will help inform the future plan.

The County Councillor's elections will be taking place in May and the Council is currently in its pre-election period. It was assumed that the current representatives of the PSB Board will continue, noting the Chair may change following the elections.

4. NATUR A NI / NATURE AND US - OFFER TO PSB

The Board received a letter from Natural Resources Wales regarding Nature and Us. NRW, with support from Welsh Government, are jointly hosting a National Conversation with citizens in Wales about the future of the Welsh environment. The purpose of the national conversation is to build a shared vision for the future of the Welsh environment and the pathways to get there. NRW would like to make the offer to all PSBs to be involved in the national conversation – either through the promotion of the campaign or agreeing to jointly host a focus group. NRW will be hosting the focus groups bringing in external facilitators. In return the organisation will be able to receive the results and data which will not only support the Well-being plan but will help build local platforms for action.

There was support from PSB members for this but the potential of duplication of work of engagement with communities was noted, and a suggestion was made for a smarter approach in terms of timing of engagement exercises. Ann Watkin offered to share the information recently received from a recent exercise on the development of economic frameworks.

5.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
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The minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd February 2022 were agreed as a true record.

Liz Rijnenberg raised a query around the support in achieving official recognition of Mid and West Wales as a Living Wage region and how this was being progressed in each organisation. PCC is bound by national pay negotiation, it is something that is being looked into nationally and it was agreed to provide an allocation for Social Care contractors to cover up to the real living wage. MWWFRS reports that there is the intent and desire for this and will be addressed by the end of the year once a job evaluation exercise has been carried out. The Leader suggested an update on this item when appropriate.

6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
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The Leader expressed her thanks to all PSB partners for their contributions made over the past 5 years. The Leader congratulated all Senior Officers for the joint working during the Covid pandemic and floods, working together to do the best for Powys residents. The Leader hoped that all partners will be contributing to the Public Enquiry into the management of Covid.

7.	DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS
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The dates of the meetings for the rest of the year were noted.

It was noted that a number of workshops will be arranged in the year, to start considering the future plan. PSB members were asked to give some consideration for the next Plan, noting that at the previous Board meeting there was support for the number of priorities to be reduced from 12 with more of a focus on objectives.

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)