

# Public Document Pack

## Cabinet

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Meeting Venue  
**By Teams**

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Meeting date  
**Tuesday, 1 March 2022**

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Meeting time  
**10.30 am**

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For further information please contact  
**Stephen Boyd**  
01597 826374  
steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk



County Hall  
Llandrindod Wells  
Powys  
LD1 5LG

23/02/2022

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Mae croeso i chi siarad yn Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg yn y cyfarfod.  
Rhowch wybod pa iaith rydych am ei defnyddio erbyn hanner dydd, ddau ddiwrnod  
gwaith cyn y cyfarfod.  
You are welcome to speak Welsh or English in the meeting.  
Please inform us of which language you wish to use by noon, two working days  
before the meeting.

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### AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
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To receive apologies for absence.

<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>
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To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
as a correct record.

(Pages 3 - 4)

<b>3.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
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To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to items to be  
considered on the agenda.

<b>4.</b>	<b>POWYS NATURE RECOVERY ACTION PLAN</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Heulwen Hulme, Portfolio Holder for  
Environment.

(Pages 5 - 24)

<b>5.</b>	<b>CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Adult Services, Welsh Language, Housing and Climate Change.

(Pages 25 - 58)

<b>6.</b>	<b>WCCIS REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Beverley Baynham, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Planning and Regulatory Services.

(Pages 59 - 64)

<b>7.</b>	<b>NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR WELSH (LOCAL AUTHORITY) ADOPTION AND FOSTERING SERVICES</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Rachel Powell, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture.

(Pages 65 - 70)

<b>8.</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF THE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM FROM APRIL 2022 TO MARCH 2026</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care.

(Pages 71 - 104)

<b>9.</b>	<b>COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM THE COUNCIL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Welsh Language, Housing and Climate Change.

(To Follow)

<b>10.</b>	<b>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</b>
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To consider the Cabinet forward work programme.

(Pages 105 - 106)

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY,  
16 FEBRUARY 2022**

**PRESENT**

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, P Davies, A W Davies, H Hulme and R Powell

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>
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There were no apologies for absence.

<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
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There were no declarations of interest reported.

<b>3.</b>	<b>EXEMPT ITEMS</b>
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**RESOLVED to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under category 3 of The Local Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).**

<b>4.</b>	<b>GLOBAL CENTRE OF RAIL EXCELLENCE</b>
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Cabinet considered the confidential report on the Global Centre of Rail Excellence project. The funding being received would require changes to the 2022/23 Capital and Treasury Management Strategy. Cabinet was advised of the views of the Finance Panel which had met on 14<sup>th</sup> February and which was supportive of the project.

**RESOLVED**

- 1. To approve the changes to the 2022/23 Capital and Treasury Management Strategy, outlined in sections 4.8 to 4.16 of the report with the revised Strategy to be submitted for approval by Council on the 24th February 2022.**

**Specifically changes will be made to the:**

- The Capital Programme**
- The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)**
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement**
- The Prudential Indicators**
- Debt and Investment figures**

- **Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit**
- 2. **That a further report be brought to Cabinet for approval of the Investment Documentation required to establish the Investment Structure.**
- 3. **That funding will be held within Council accounts in accordance with the requirements of the draft Revised Repayable Funding Offer Letter from Welsh Government and established local authority accounting practice.**

**County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)**

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET EXECUTIVE****1<sup>st</sup> March 2022****REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Heulwen Hulme  
Portfolio Holder for Environment****REPORT TITLE: Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan**

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**REPORT FOR: Decision**

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**1. Purpose**

The purpose of the report is to:

- 1.1 Present the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan to the Council for adoption;
- 1.2 Seek the Council's continued commitment to the Powys Nature Partnership, thereby assisting the delivery of the Plan's actions; and
- 1.3 Highlight the role of the above in helping the Council to meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Biodiversity continues to decline internationally, and Wales is not exempt from this trend<sup>12</sup>. Biodiversity provides the life support systems enabling all organisms, including humans, to survive. It is essential to economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being. Each organism has a role to play and contributes to the health, productivity, and resilience of our ecosystems.
- 2.2 Ecosystems provide a multiplicity of benefits and services to people, from the provision of food and products that support our economies, water purification and regulation, pollination, and erosion control. It also provides cultural services by providing recreational experiences, helping to improve our physical and mental health and well-being and it gives us a sense of place.
- 2.3 A decline in biodiversity will impact on the provision of food, the changing climate, and our own resilience as a species so immediate action is

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<sup>1</sup> State of Nature Report 2019: <https://nbn.org.uk/stateofnature2019/reports/>

<sup>2</sup> State of our Natural Resources Report 2020: <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/state-of-natural-resources-report-sonarr-for-wales-2020/?lang=en>

required to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

- 2.4 The Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan (PNRAP) builds on the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan<sup>3</sup>, updating actions to reflect the current situation. It is primarily intended to guide the work of the Powys Nature Partnership, a group of organisations and individuals committed to reversing the declines in biodiversity across Powys (excluding the Brecon Beacons National Park, the National Park benefits from its own Local Nature Partnership and Nature Recovery Action Plan) and of which Powys County Council is a part.
- 2.5 The PNRAP has been prepared by an Ecological Consultancy and Powys County Council in consultation with the Powys Nature Partnership and is the product of various discussions over the past five years. Discussions have been facilitated through the Powys Nature Partnership to agree a set of actions for nature recovery within Powys.
- 2.6 At the heart of the PNRAP is the ambition to reverse the declines in biodiversity in Powys by focussing on developing resilient ecological networks (also known as 'nature recovery networks'). The PNRAP takes an ecosystem approach, meaning that it is designed to deliver biodiversity action at a larger scale than a single species or habitat and takes account of the needs of people at the same time.
- 2.7 The PNRAP is an aspirational 10-year plan. The intention is that the actions included within the plan will be regularly reviewed and updated within the 10-year life of the plan, in response to circumstances.
- 2.8 The PNRAP is a key mechanism for helping prioritise, deliver, and monitor nature recovery in Powys. It provides a local delivery framework for compliance with Wales' environmental legal and policy drivers and the Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales<sup>4</sup>. The adoption of the Nature Recovery Action Plan provides a demonstrable way of assisting the Council to deliver its obligations to the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

### **3. Advice**

It is proposed that:

- 3.1 The Council adopts the PNRAP as at appendix A and continues its commitment to the Powys Nature Partnership to help the Council meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 3.2 The actions within the plan (appendix B) be reviewed annually by the Powys Nature Partnership. This will allow the plan to evolve in response

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<sup>3</sup> Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/2553/Local-Biodiversity-Action-Plan>

<sup>4</sup> Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales: <https://gov.wales/nature-recovery-action-plan>

to changes in policies and legislation, resource availability and data.

3.3 Progress towards delivering the plan be monitored through the production of an annual high-level report by the Partnership. More detailed reporting on individual grant funded actions will be provided to grant funding bodies.

#### **4. Resource Implications**

4.1 This PNRAP is intended to help the Powys Nature Partnership to target resources to develop and deliver projects at the appropriate scale. It can also help to inform and support funding applications. It is a Partnership plan, so many of the actions will be externally funded by partner organisations, either through their core funding or through external grant funded projects.

4.2 During the consultations to develop the PNRAP, it was ensured that any Council related actions included within the plan reflect either:

- Core activities, including those which are ongoing or planned as part of the Council's duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and so are already supported by service budgets;
- Activities which are intended to be delivered through grant funded programmes, such as the Local Places for Nature funding, so any up-front costs will be met without placing additional demands on core Council budgets.

4.3 The long-term management of any grant funded activities delivered by the Council will be considered before these are implemented, ensuring that either partner organisations, volunteers or community groups are able to support this.

4.4 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the content of the report and that the actions that fall upon the Council can be accommodated within existing service budgets.

#### **5. Legal implications**

5.1 The PNRAP is aligned with Welsh Government's Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales, taking the six all Wales objectives and setting them in the context of local priorities.

5.2 Adopting the proposed plan, as set out in points 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 above, would assist the Council to meet its duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, which places a statutory duty on the Council to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its functions.

5.3 Adopting the proposed plan, as set out in points 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, will also assist the Council to deliver its obligations to the Wellbeing of Future

Generations (Wales) Act 2015, particularly the 'Resilient Wales' goal.

- 5.4 The Deputy Monitoring Officer notes the content of the Report and supports the proposals contained within the plan for adoption by the Council.

## **6. Data Protection**

- 6.1 The PNRAP reflects the activities carried out by the Powys Nature Partnership to reverse biodiversity declines in Powys. No information about individuals is included; as such, the proposal as set out in points 3.1 and 3.2 above does not require the processing of personal data.

## **7. Comment from local member(s)**

- 7.1 Not applicable - this plan reflects an approach to carrying out and reporting on activities across all areas of Powys, except the Brecon Beacons National Park for which there is a separate Nature Recovery Action Plan. It is expected that Local Members would have opportunity to comment on individual schemes to enhance biodiversity in their Ward, as they arise.

## **8. Impact Assessment**

The full impact assessment is at appendix C; in summary:

- 8.1 The proposals will have a positive impact if implemented, as the Council will be able to demonstrate and monitor the way in which it is meeting its responsibility to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its duties. Taking pro-active steps to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces will have a positive effect on the natural environment of Powys, it will address the decline in biodiversity and help to create healthy, resilient ecosystems. Through increasing the quality of the natural environment, the proposals will enhance the opportunities for access to greenspace for physical and mental wellbeing. The Council's activities will contribute to the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan and adopting the plan will assist the Council to meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 8.2 It is expected that individual Services will consider the resource implications of each activity that they propose to carry out to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces to ensure that the activity and its benefits are sustainable in the light of current and likely future resource levels. It is proposed that the activities be monitored annually by the Powys Nature Partnership. The Biodiversity Officer will collate this information as coordinating the partnership and Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan is part of this role.

## **9. Recommendation**

It is recommended that:



9.1 The Council adopts the PNRAP as at appendix A and continues its commitment to the Powys Nature Partnership, to help the Council to meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

9.2 The actions within the plan (appendix B) are reviewed annually by the Powys Nature Partnership.

9.3 Progress towards delivering the plan should be monitored through the production of an annual report by the Partnership.

**Appendices:**

[Appendix A – Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan](#)

[Appendix B – Action lists \(general and for specific habitats / species\)](#)

Appendix C – Impact assessment

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Head of Service: Matt Perry

Corporate Director: Nigel Brinn

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# Impact Assessment

## Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan



18/02/2022

Reference: 6018-1722-3703-6860

Impact Assessments (IA) are a process of assessing how our proposals and decisions might impact upon different types of people and communities and developing proposals in line with relevant legislation.

**This is a legal requirement, and ensures the Council considers key legislation, including Equalities, Welsh language, Future Generations, Socio-economic Duty and Risk when developing proposals.**

**It will also help the Council make the best possible decisions for the people of Powys.**

# 1. Proposal Information

<b>Author name</b>	Holly Dillon, Biodiversity Officer
<b>Head of service</b>	Matthew Perry, Head of Highways, Transport and Recycling
<b>Portfolio holder</b>	Heulwen Hulme, portfolio holder for Portfolio Holder for Environment
<b>Proposal title</b>	Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan
<b>Description of proposal</b>	<p>The Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan (PNRAP) aims to reverse the declines in biodiversity in Powys by focussing on developing resilient ecological networks (also known as ‘nature recovery networks’). It is primarily intended to guide the work of the Powys Nature Partnership, a group of organisations and individuals committed to reversing the declines in biodiversity in Powys and of which Powys County Council is a part.</p> <p>It is proposed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Council adopts the PNRAP as in appendix A and continues its commitment to the Powys Nature Partnership to help the Council meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</li><li>2. The actions within the plan (appendix B) be reviewed annually by the Powys Nature Partnership. This will allow the plan to evolve in response to changes in policies and legislation, resource availability and data; and</li><li>3. Progress towards delivering the PNRAP is monitored through the production of an annual high-level report by the Powys Nature Partnership, until standardised Nature Recovery Action Plan reporting mechanisms have been agreed by Welsh Government.</li></ol>

## 2. Savings and Consultation requirements

### Profile of savings delivery

### Consultation requirements

<b>Consultation required?</b>	No
<b>Justification</b>	This is a Powys Nature Partnership plan that has been developed in consultation with members of the Powys Nature Partnership and will be used to guide the work of the partnership.

### 3. Impact on other service areas, geographical areas and data protection

#### 3a. Impact on other service areas

- Digital Services
- Transformation and Communications Service
- Housing and Community Development
- Highways Transport & Recycling
- Finance (Section 151)
- Property Planning and Public Protection
- Education
- Schools (Primary Secondary and Special)

#### 3b. Impact on geographical locations

The entire county

#### 3c. Data protection impact assessment

<b>Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals?</b>	No
<b>Is Powys County Council the data controller?</b>	No
<b>Further information</b>	No information about individuals is included in the plan; as such, the proposal does not require the processing of personal data in itself.

### 4. Impact on Vision 2025

#### 4a. The economy

<b>Impact</b>	Healthy, functioning ecosystems provide a multiplicity of benefits and services to people, including the provision of food and products that sustain our economies. The plan includes actions for greenspace and biodiversity enhancement. This will help to promote Powys as a place to live and visit and increase sustainable tourism opportunities. The plan will also be used to apply for external grant funding to deliver many actions, this funding will be used to purchase local goods and services and create job opportunities in Powys.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	By ensuring that there is active promotion of the actions and outcomes of the plan to enhance biodiversity through the Council's actions and through partnership projects, residents and visitors will become more aware of the opportunities available to access to high quality greenspace and biodiversity.
<b>Mitigated impact rating</b>	Good

#### 4b. Health and care

<b>Impact</b>	By taking action to reverse the declines in biodiversity, the Powys Nature Partnership will ensure that Powys has a high quality and biodiverse natural environment. Access to high quality greenspace is very important for the mental and physical wellbeing of residents of all ages; this has been strongly demonstrated during the COVID 19 outbreak. Many of the actions included within the plan include activities to help residents to experience the natural world through events and volunteering opportunities. Volunteering to support biodiversity initiatives can also make a significant contribution to the sense of fulfilment of residents.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	By ensuring that there is active promotion of the activities and outcomes of work to enhance biodiversity through the Council's activities and through partnership projects, residents will become more aware of the opportunities available to them to access high quality greenspace and biodiversity and to get involved in volunteering opportunities and/or events to help improve their health and wellbeing.
<b>Mitigated impact rating</b>	Good

#### 4c. Learning and skills

<b>Impact</b>	Activities to enhance biodiversity may contribute directly to learning opportunities for children and young people, including events and activities at schools to teach children about the natural world, and the development of wildlife gardens at schools. Many of the actions within the Powys Nature Recovery Action plan will create volunteering opportunities for young people and adults, allowing them to learn environmental and land management skills, improving their employability.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

#### 4d. Residents and communities

<b>Impact</b>	The Powys Nature Recovery Action plan focuses on safeguarding and enhancing the natural environment for residents and communities. Many of the actions focus on enhancing the natural environment and will involve working with residents and communities to improve their local greenspaces for nature, such as creating community gardens and orchards. The Council will be able to make a direct contribution to this priority by delivering greenspace enhancements through grant funding, such as Local Places for Nature scheme. The plan also outlines how residents and communities can be directly involved in the delivery of the plan, providing ideas on how they can safeguard and enhance the natural environment.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

#### 4e. Evidence

The sources of evidence to support the proposed approach are:

1. The Wales Nature Recovery Action Plan: <https://gov.wales/nature-recovery-action-plan>
2. The UK National Ecosystem Assessment - Economic Values from Ecosystems: <http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Resources/tabid/82/Default.aspx>
3. Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Wellbeing: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/sustainable-management-of-natural-resources-guide.pdf>
4. State of our Natural Resources Report: Ecosystem Services and Well-being: <https://naturalresources.wales/media/682045/chapter-5-wellbeing-final-for-publication.pdf>
5. How Connecting with Nature Benefits our Mental Health report: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/nature/nature-research>
6. 'Towards 2040', the Public Service Board plan: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5789/Towards-2040---the-Powys-Well-being-Plan>
7. Media articles during the COVID 19 outbreak, including the call for increased access to greenspace for all homes in Wales: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-56320917>

## 5. Impact on well-being goals including Welsh language and equalities

### 5a. A prosperous Wales

<b>Impact</b>	<p>The proposal will contribute to the national goal of 'A prosperous Wales' by helping to create resilient ecosystems that contribute to favourable conditions for economic activity. The actions set out in the plan will help ensure that ecosystems are resilient to climate change, providing a long-term contribution towards this goal. The proposal will bring a greater focus on working in ways that have a more positive impact on biodiversity when delivering the Council's Services. For example, road verge nature reserve activity delivered by the Council already allows for core highway maintenance that supports economic activity to be carried out in a way that also delivers benefits for biodiversity. Increasing the quality of greenspace through biodiversity enhancements on Council land will also deliver benefits in tackling climate change, for example by increasing tree cover that is sustained and managed.</p> <p>The proposal is intended to benefit nature and people. The partnership intends to apply for grant funding to deliver some of the actions. Through this funding there will be opportunities for local procurement, jobs (including traineeship positions), and community involvement through volunteering opportunities and creation of community greenspaces, for example.</p>
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### 5b. A resilient Wales

<b>Impact</b>	<p>The proposal will help to maintain and enhance a biodiverse natural environment with healthy and functioning ecosystems. The proposal will directly help to protect and increase the local flora and fauna. The proposal will help to create more community greenspaces for play and business whilst enhancing biodiversity, through the creation of community orchards, for example.</p> <p>The proposal will allow us to create resilient ecological networks in Powys such as through the protection, creation, and restoration of priority habitats. The proposal will allow us to help tackle climate change by utilising nature-based solutions. For example, through the restoration of wetland habitats which store carbon and alleviate flooding.</p>
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	The proposal will also assist the Council in meeting its duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### 5c. A healthier Wales

<b>Impact</b>	Spending time in nature helps to improve physical, mental and emotional health. The proposal will contribute positively to the opportunities for residents to access and engage with nature to improve their quality of life and wellbeing by creating and enhancing greenspaces. These spaces can be used for wellbeing activities to improve mental and emotional health, as well as for recreational activities to improve physical health. The proposal will also provide voluntary opportunities, and this can also make a significant contribution to the sense of fulfilment of residents.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### 5d. A Wales of cohesive communities

<b>Impact</b>	By increasing the quality of greenspaces and opportunities to engage with nature, the proposal will maintain and increase the attractiveness of local communities. Communities will have the opportunity to get involved in delivering actions to improve biodiversity and their local greenspaces through events and voluntary opportunities. The plan also outlines how communities can get together to help enhance local biodiversity such as through the Bee Friendly scheme, for example. These will all help people to feel connected with their communities and with the place in which they live.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### 5e. A globally responsible Wales

<b>Impact</b>	Biodiversity loss is a global issue. Biodiversity provides the life support systems enabling all organisms, including humans, to survive. It is essential to economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being across the globe. By taking action to reverse the biodiversity declines in Powys and to create healthy, resilient ecosystems, we will contribute positively to the quality of global ecosystems, as local and global ecosystems are interconnected. In addition, using nature-based solutions
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	to tackle issues like climate change will contribute to the goal of 'A globally responsible Wales'.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## 5f. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

### Using Welsh

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Promoting Welsh

<b>Impact</b>	A Welsh version of the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan will be available. The plan and any actions relating to the plan will be promoted through the medium of English and Welsh.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Some actions will provide additional opportunities to promote the Welsh language, for example, if they involve elements of interpretation such as the creation of signs or educational resources.
<b>Mitigated impact rating</b>	Good

### Sports, Art & Recreation

<b>Impact</b>	Enhancing biodiversity will increase the quality and enjoyment of greenspace, which will encourage residents and visitors to make use of it for physical activity and other recreation. The creation of community /wildlife gardens associated with community centres and libraries may encourage greater use of the associated facilities and therefore engagement in cultural activities.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## 5g. A more equal Wales

### Age

	Enhancing biodiversity engages and provide opportunities for all age groups. Children may be able to take advantage of biodiverse greenspace
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<b>Impact</b>	for play and it can be used for environmental educational and nature-based activities. Adults may contribute to the enhancements through voluntary activity and will also be able to use the greenspace.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### Disability

<b>Impact</b>	Enhancing biodiversity and greenspaces engages and provides opportunities for people to connect with nature on their doorstep. Grant funding to support biodiversity action may also support accessibility and sensory enhancements to create inclusive greenspaces, for example through assets developed through the Local Places for Nature funding.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### Gender Reassignment

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Marriage or Civil Partnership

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Race

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Religion or Belief

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Sex

<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Sexual Orientation

<b>Impact</b>	None
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<b>Impact</b>	None
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### Socio-economic Duty

<b>Impact</b>	The proposal will benefit the whole community, irrespective of income, by enhancing greenspaces across the county. There is generally no charge for access to these areas and many are within a short distance of residential areas. Some of the grant funding streams which will be utilised to enhance biodiversity targets areas of deprivation e.g., the Local Places for Nature funding. In doing so, the enhancements make a pro-active contribution to the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of greenspace for those living on a low income.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

### 5h. Evidence

The sources of evidence to support judgements:

1. The Wales Nature Recovery Action Plan: <https://gov.wales/nature-recovery-action-plan>
2. Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Wellbeing: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/sustainable-management-of-natural-resources-guide.pdf>
3. State of our Natural Resources Report: Ecosystem Services and Well-being: <https://naturalresources.wales/media/682045/chapter-5-wellbeing-final-for-publication.pdf>
4. How Connecting with Nature Benefits our Mental Health report: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/nature/nature-research>
5. 'Towards 2040', the Public Service Board plan: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5789/Towards-2040---the-Powys-Well-being-Plan>

## 6. Impact on key guiding principles & workforce

### 6a. Sustainable development principles

#### Long-term

<b>Impact</b>	The proposal will contribute proactively to addressing the decline of biodiversity and increasing the resilience of ecosystems for future generations. Activities to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces led by the Council will have both short term and long-term outcomes and interventions will need to continue in the long term i.e., they will need to
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	become part of business-as-usual Service delivery and community activity.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## Collaboration

<b>Impact</b>	The plan is a collaborative effort produced by the Powys Nature Partnership to allow skills, knowledge, and resources to be shared to help reverse the declines in biodiversity and create resilient ecosystems. Many activities to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces are already or will be delivered through collaborative activities with Partnership organisations and with communities. Many of the actions within the plan will be delivered by Partnership organisations and they will continue to play an active role in the delivery of the plan.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## Involvement (including Communication and Engagement)

<b>Impact</b>	The proposal is a partnership plan; therefore, all members of the Powys Nature Partnership were consulted to develop the plan. All members of the partnership were able to directly feed into the plan through a series of meetings and all provided with copies of the draft plan to read and provide comments on. This feedback was incorporated into the plan. We will continue to involve the partnership in all future reviews of the plan. Will continuously engage with them through regular email updates, quarterly partnership meetings and through the annual progress reporting. In addition, the partnership will also consult with communities for any community-focused actions or projects delivered through the plan, such as creating community orchards, to ensure their views and voices are heard and used to inform decision making.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## Prevention

<b>Impact</b>	The proposal will result in pro-active action being taken by the Powys Nature Partnership, including the Council through core service delivery and collaborative projects, and people to prevent further declines in biodiversity. The Powys Nature Recovery Action plan takes the six national objectives from the Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales and sets these in a local context, looking at the issues which need to be addressed and the actions needed to reverse biodiversity declines and
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	create healthy, functioning ecosystems in Powys. On top of guiding the work of the partnership, the plan also empowers people to take action themselves by providing suggestions on how individuals, communities, schools, and businesses can take action to prevent further declines in biodiversity in their area.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## Integration

<b>Impact</b>	The proposal contributes positively to integrating the wellbeing goals through pro-actively enhancing biodiversity and the resilience of ecosystems in Powys. Biodiversity is essential to economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being because each organism has a role to play and contributes to the health, productivity, and resilience of our ecosystems. Ecosystems provide many services to people, including the provision of food and products that support economic wellbeing. They also provide cultural services by providing recreational experiences, improving our physical and mental wellbeing, and giving us a sense of place.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Very good
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## 6b. Impact on the workforce

<b>Impact</b>	Individual activities or changes made to business-as-usual Service delivery to enhance biodiversity may have an impact on the way in which the staff concerned carry out their duties, or the skills that they require. However, this will be dependent on individual activities and will need to be assessed for each piece of work when proposed.
<b>Impact rating</b>	Neutral
<b>Mitigation</b>	Not specified

## 6c. Impact on payroll

<b>Impact</b>	None
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## 6d. Welsh language impact on staff

<b>Impact</b>	None
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## 6e. Impact on apprenticeships

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## 6f. Evidence

The sources of evidence to support judgements:

1. The Wales Nature Recovery Action Plan: <https://gov.wales/nature-recovery-action-plan>
2. Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Wellbeing: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/sustainable-management-of-natural-resources-guide.pdf>
3. State of our Natural Resources Report: Ecosystem Services and Well-being: <https://naturalresources.wales/media/682045/chapter-5-wellbeing-final-for-publication.pdf>
4. How Connecting with Nature Benefits our Mental Health report: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/nature/nature-research>
5. 'Towards 2040', the Public Service Board plan: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/5789/Towards-2040---the-Powys-Well-being-Plan>

## 7. Likelihood and risks

No risks documented

## 8. Overall summary and judgement

### Outline assessment

The proposals will have a positive impact if implemented, as the Council will be able to demonstrate and monitor the way in which it is meeting its responsibility to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its duties. Taking pro-active steps to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces will have a positive effect on the natural environment of Powys, it will address the decline in biodiversity and help to create healthy, resilient ecosystems. Through increasing the quality of the natural environment, the proposals will enhance the opportunities for access to greenspace for physical and mental wellbeing. The Council's activities will contribute to the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan and adopting the plan will assist the Council to meet its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

It is expected that individual Services will consider the resource implications of each activity that they propose to carry out to enhance biodiversity and greenspaces to ensure that the activity and its benefits are sustainable in the light of current and likely future resource levels. It is proposed that the activities be monitored annually by the Powys Nature Partnership. The Biodiversity Officer will collate this information as coordinating the partnership and Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan is part of this role.

Cabinet reference

## 9. Additional evidence

1. Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services 2019: <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>
2. UN Global Biodiversity Outlook 2020: <https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-en.pdf>
3. Living Planet Report 2020 - Bending the curve of biodiversity loss: <https://www.zsl.org/sites/default/files/LPR%202020%20Full%20report.pdf>
4. The State of Nature Report 2019: <https://nbn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/State-of-Nature-2019-UK-full-report.pdf>
5. State of our Natural Resources Report 2020: <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/state-of-natural-resources-report-sonarr-for-wales-2020/?lang=en>

## 10. Ongoing monitoring arrangements and governance

### Monitoring arrangements

There is currently no standardised mechanism for monitoring the progress of the Local Nature Recovery Action Plans. To monitor progress, a list of projects and activities taking place in Powys which contribute to the delivery of the plan will be compiled and updated annually by the Powys Nature Partnership, until standardised reporting mechanisms have been agreed by Welsh Government.

Review date	08/03/2023
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null



**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET****Date 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022****REPORT AUTHOR: Cllr Myfanwy Alexander****REPORT TITLE: Climate Change Strategy**

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**REPORT FOR: Approval**

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 Powys County Council declared a climate emergency in September 2020 when the council agreed to a cross-party motion on climate change. The Climate Change Strategy (see Appendix A) builds on that declaration highlighting how acting on climate change meets all four pillars of vision 2025 strengthening the councils existing policies and transformational approach.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 A report detailing the draft Climate change Strategy, titled the Red Kite Climate Vision and Strategy was presented to Cabinet on the 23rd of November. The following point were noted:
- The publication of the draft Red Kite Climate Vision and Strategy for engagement.
  - The engagement of stakeholders and collection of feedback on the draft strategy through and online consultation questionnaire,

**3. Action**

- 3.1 Following these recommendations, a Climate Strategy survey was conducted from 15th December 2021 to 7th January 2022. The survey was advertised to stakeholders via external communications channels including press, email, and regular social media posts and internally to staff.
- 3.2 There were 170 respondents to the online survey and five responses by email. The below tables detail the number of views and responses received (See appendix B for key findings of the survey)

	English	Welsh	Total
<b>Views of the project pages during the engagement period</b>	924	8	932
<b>Respondents to the online survey</b>	169	1	170
<b>Responses by email</b>	5	0	5

3.3 Through the detailed feedback from our residents a clear message was received, regarding the importance of Climate change to them. The survey showed that;

- 97% of responders felt that Climate change was important to them
- 96% of responders were concerned about the impacts of climate change.

3.4 Once we received feedback from the survey, we were able to examine what residents were telling us. Reviewing their feedback on the Draft strategy, we were able to redraft the Strategy based on their views and feedback.

3.5 Overall, of feedback received was positive, with a few recommendations highlighted. The key changes to the strategy can be broken down into the following 4 key themes. These were:

- **Clarity on who the strategy was aimed at**
- **Lack of urgency or emphasis on ‘emergency’**
- **The objectives were not SMART**
- **Could be simpler/less jargon / wordy**

3.6 These areas have been addressed, and the revised Climate Change Strategy was presented to the Climate Action Programme Board on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January for any final feedback and approval. Following the Board minor changes were made on the benefits, innovation and collaboration sections and the draft strategy was agreed.

3.7 The final strategy was then presented to the Cross-Party Working group on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. At both these boards we also presented the feedback received and how the feedback was incorporated into the new document.

#### **4. Resource Implications**

4.1 The strategy identifies the need to identify funding opportunities to support the strategy and the implementation of actions. Funding for the transition to net zero by local authorities is something Welsh Government is currently implementing but details are not still being developed. External funding is relied upon to meet the scale and pace of change that is required to get to net zero by 2030.

4.2 The Head of Finance (Section 151 officer) notes the comments above this strategy sets the vision and the way forward but the costs of implementing the strategy are not yet identified and as the work develops any financial resourcing will need to be considered in Service Integrated Business Plan's and considered as the Council develops its annual revenue and capital budgets, Capital Programme and Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

**5. Legal implications**

5.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: " I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

**6. Data Protection**

6.1 No personal data will be included in the publication of the Climate Change Strategy.

**7. Comment from local member(s)**

7.1 N/A

**8. Recommendation**

9.1 To approve the publication of the Climate Change Strategy as set out in Appendix A.

Contact Officer:	Diane Reynolds
Tel:	01597826008
Email:	diane.reynolds@powys.gov.uk

Head of Service: Head of Economy and Digital Services – Diane Reynolds

Executive Director: Economy and Environment – Nigel Brinn

**Appendix A**            Climate Change Strategy

**Appendix B**            Summary

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# A Strategy for Climate change

- Net positive Powys 2021-2030

Page 29



## Contents

Foreword	Page 3
Introduction	Page 4
Why act on climate change	Page 6
Our vision and principles	Page 9
Taking action	Page 11
Building	Page 12
Mobility and transport	Page 13
Procurement	Page 14
Land use and Agriculture	Page 15
Council and Governance	Page 16
Our Aim	Page 17
Strategies and policies	Page 18
Delivery/next steps	Page 19
How we will monitor progress	Page 20
Closing statement	Page 21

## Foreword

**We are facing a climate emergency. As a Council we need to act now to reduce direct and indirect carbon emissions to net zero. We also need to prepare and adapt to deal with the future impacts of climate change by ensuring that as a County, we become climate resilient.**

To achieve this, over the next decade, we will radically rethink how we live, work, learn, play and invest in the county. We also need action, not only on a local level but regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Powys County Council in collaboration with our partners are proud to lead this transition. Working collaboratively with communities, partners, and other organisations, we will together meet the challenge of climate change and have the 'future that we choose'.

With a clear position on the need for transformative action, the strategy sets the framework for Powys Council to take action, building on Powys successes and challenges to date. This strategy sets the vision for where we need to be in 2030 and how we aim to achieve our goal of being net carbon zero by 2030. By achieving this goal, we believe that Powys will contribute to:

- ✓ **Tackling the climate emergency, we all face**
- ✓ **Cutting emissions by at least 95% in Wales by 2050**
- ✓ **Making the public sector in Wales net carbon zero by as outlined in Welsh Governments Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales delivery plan**

Although we are facing a climate emergency and the challenges and actions required by every individual will not be easy, we will also see this as an exciting opportunity to address the challenge through the delivery of warm homes, reducing inequalities, creating more places for our children to play, cleaner air, jobs and opportunities for all.

We recognise that achieving our vision will not be easy. The Council will need to show strong leadership to create opportunities for all to participate in the delivery and benefits of this change.

**A Strategy for Climate change- Net positive Powys 2021-2030**

## Introduction

On September the 24th 2020 Powys County Council declared a climate emergency and agreed to a cross-party motion on climate change. This declaration showed the commitment and ambition Powys County Council has to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero, in line with the Welsh public sector target of 2030. This document builds on that declaration. **By formally declaring the emergency, the Council are saying that the work that we are doing to tackle climate change needs to grow and speed up.**

Powys council in collaboration with our partners is uniquely placed to lead the challenge of climate change, as it is recognised that we have a democratic mandate for action, proximity to citizens and a key strategic role in leading public, private and voluntary sector partners. As so, Powys Council and our partners are proud to lead this transition. Working collaboratively with our partners and influencing communities, and other organisations, we will together meet the challenge of climate change and have the 'future that we choose' set out our shared vision in this strategy. We also believe we have a responsibility as one of the largest local employers to lead by example and support the behaviour change needed.

Climate Change is close to home for many in Powys. We are already seeing increased extreme weather, especially flooding. With Covid, we have recently seen the need to act on science to address this emergency. Our recovery from covid provides us an opportunity to build back better, to have a green recovery.

**In Wales the public sector has an ambition to not simply meet net zero by 2050 as the whole economy must, or by 2040 as many in the private sector but to take global responsibility seriously, we are looking to be net zero in the public sector by 2030. This is an ambitious aim and for good reason.**



**Acting on climate change saves lives. Action required needs to consider reducing our impact (mitigation) on the climate and therefore the damages we will see and responding to the risks (adaptation) of climate change to build climate stability and resilience.**

We have already been on a long journey, making changes to support climate action plus delivering numerous projects that have already reduced our impact on the environment, however the current level of action is not enough to meet the challenges that we are faced with and the goals that we want to achieve.



**Now is the time to increase awareness, change behaviours, join forces, and increase the pace of action.**

Powys  
2023

We recognise the challenges and impacts of Climate change are different for citizens across Powys. 'We' as individuals; as a county need to unite and take action to tackle this climate emergency that we are facing, working alongside regional, and national stakeholders.

A key step change in this transition is behaviour, behaviour of individuals, communities, and businesses. Powys is unlikely to meet its vision and targets for reducing carbon emissions without a greater emphasis on behaviours which in turn will result in action and sustainability.





## Why act on climate change? ?

The world's temperature is rising because of human activity, and climate change now threatens every aspect of life.

Climate and ecological change is the globally defining challenge of our time. It impacts all living things on Earth, including you and me.

If left unchecked, humans and nature will experience catastrophic warming with worsening droughts, greater sea level rise and mass extinction of species.

## We face a huge challenge, but there are solutions.

Ambitious action on climate change saves lives. Climate change is a significant global issue with local impacts for everyone. Powys has already experienced extreme weather events including flooding and storm damage. These and other extreme events are also experienced globally and are making the news around the world.

Although we are already experiencing the negative impacts of climate change, we can still decide what our future looks like. Our actions today impact on both current and future generations.



**THE URGENCY IS CLEAR**



Powys communities have received national recognition for their ability to rally together, especially at a time of crisis. In the challenges that Covid-19 has brought, we have seen the positive results of communities working together. We are capable of meeting challenges. **Together we can restore our climate and rise to the challenge.**

Some changes are already happening, though not at the pace and scale that will meet our carbon commitments. **Both the pace and scale of change must be increased on this collective journey to securing a sustainable future for the next generation.** Funding for the transition to net zero by local authorities is something the Welsh Government is currently investigating. Appropriate funding is relied upon to meet the scale and pace of change that is required to get to net zero by 2030.

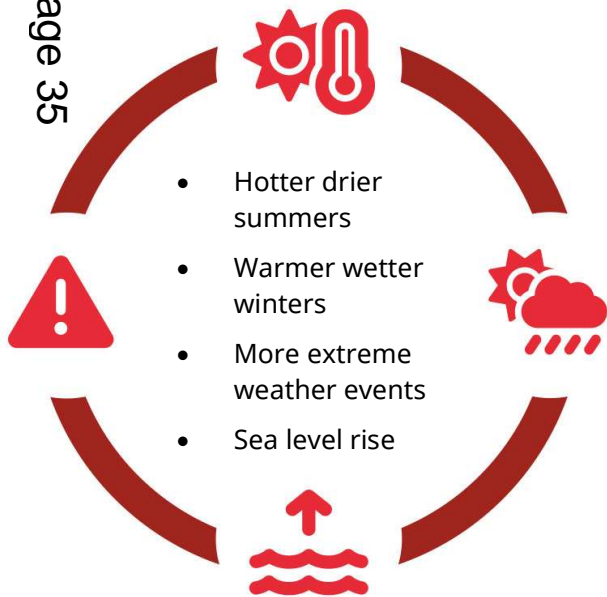
The impacts of climate change for the future are dependent on the choices we make now. The next chapter of our collective journey on responding to climate change is one about what future we choose, by working together we can meet this even greater challenge.

## Impacts of climate change

The rise in global temperature is causing our climate and our planet to change.

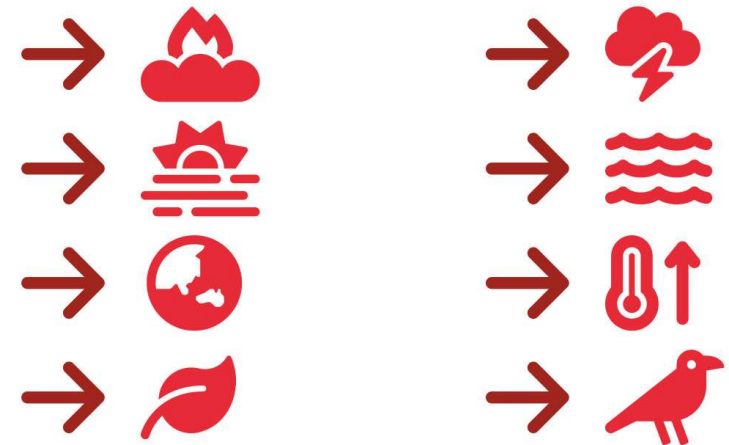
The impacts of climate change are:

Page 35



The impacts of climate change cause:

- More drought and wildfire
- Stronger storms
- More heat waves
- Flooding
- Damaged corals
- Less snow and ice and the thawing of the permafrost
- Changes in plant life cycles
- Changes to animal migration and life cycles





## What is climate change?

Climate is the average weather in a place over many years. Climate change is a shift in those average conditions. The rapid climate change we are now seeing is caused by humans using oil, gas and coal for their homes, businesses, and transport.

When fossil fuels burn, they release greenhouse gases- mostly carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). These gases trap the sun's heat and cause the planet's temperature to rise.

**The world is now about 1.2C warmer than it was in the 19th Century and the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has risen by 50%**

## Our Vision and Principles

**Vision: In 2030 Powys County Council is carbon neutral and climate resilient.**

We have collectively achieved a fair and inclusive transition, capturing the opportunities of new jobs and investment, improved health, wellbeing and education, and a better environment for local people. We are harnessing the power of nature and people working in balance and have a rich ecosystem and thriving green economy. We have contributed to a safer global climate.

This vision is supported by a number of key principles



### Long Term

We are looking to 2030 in our plans and split this into three terms for ease of focus. We acknowledge in many workstreams, that looking through a longer-term lens identifies opportunity for earlier intervention.



### Integration

The recent publication of "Net zero carbon status by 2030 A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh public sector" has been fully utilised and the structure of this document includes the headings found there. Based on work with the Partnership Council for Wales and published by the Welsh Government. This plan also includes work on all six priority areas of the Mid Wales Energy Strategy and incorporates suggestions from the Powys Public Service Board's draft work on creating a Carbon Positive Powys. Bringing together Regional, Sub-national and National workplans into one document.



### Involvement

We meet every month as a cross party working group with member representatives from across the county to discuss climate change. We are using the place-based approach to not only increase involvement and innovation, but to understand and meet the needs of the diverse communities across our vast region. We have published information on climate change, why it matters, what the council is doing and how you can get involved on our website.



### Collaborative

We are working across the council through our climate champions group and our steering group. We attend regional steering groups and are the regional representative on the decarbonisation strategy panel at the national level.



### Prevention

The work on inclusion, engagement, involvement, education, skills and just transition all work towards the prevention sustainable development principle.

Underpinning these principles is 'A strategy that is fair to all' meaning outcomes will be fair, transformative, evidence-based, collaborative, and able to evolve in line with emerging technologies, changing individual and community behaviours, and new scientific findings. This means that the areas of climate action will support the County in securing wider benefits of social, economic, and environmental equality.

All people who live, work, learn and play in the County will be involved in the delivery of climate action. The action plans which will support the delivery of this Strategy and its outcomes will enable a transition for the county that is accessible and possible for all.

**Below are some community-centred solutions which support wider social, economic, and environmental equality and are already in place.**

- ✔ **Affordable warmth including addressing fuel poverty, projects listed in buildings section of action plan**
- ✔ **Zero Interest Loans Fund for energy efficiency and renewable energy**
- ✔ **New Ways of Working, including remote working, avoiding travel time and cost**
- ✔ **Digital Inclusion so the shift to digital can be inclusive, including rural broadband**
- ✔ **Public transport and Active Travel improve mobility, health, and address transport poverty**
- ✔ **Public EV Charging Infrastructure facilitate a continuous roll out of charging infrastructure**





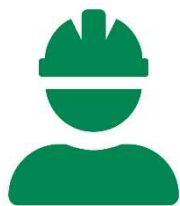
## Taking action

The action that is needed to achieve our vision is complex and multi-faceted. The strategy details five key areas of change where climate action is needed to achieve the vision for Powys in 2030. Each of these five areas require clear plans and actions to ensure that we achieve our vision. These detailed, measurable plans will be completed during the next stage of the strategy and will draw on a wide range of guidance from local, regional, and national good practice advice.

### Five key areas of change.

Below are the key areas of change which this strategy focuses on. Please note that these are high level areas and through the development of action plans and continued engagement they will evolve and be shaped by measurable outcomes.

These areas of change follow The publication - "Net zero carbon status by 2030 - A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh Public Sector". Through an engagement exercise we asked the residents of Powys how much they agreed that these five areas are suitable to support the goal of reaching net zero by 2030. We also asked them to prioritise the areas of focus and gave them the opportunity to share 'what more can be done' (See appendix 1 for suggestions via the public Engagement exercise). The following information is based on their feedback.



**Buildings**



**Mobility and transport**



**Procurement**



**Land use and Agriculture**



**Council and governance**



## Buildings



### Areas of focus

### Benefits

**Energy efficient housing**

**Deploy renewable energy where possible at our sites and in our buildings**

**21st century net zero schools**

**Use timber and other locally sourced/ available natural building materials where possible**

- Lower energy bills
- Long term income from renewable energy
- Build local skills in refurbishment
- Provide local jobs
- Decrease climate and financial risk
- Demonstrating our commitment to climate action and inspiring others
- Reduce Fuel and Child Poverty





**Areas of focus**

**Benefits**

**Work with Transport partners to improve transport infrastructure**

**Promote public transport**

**Reduce the need for travel - opportunities for remote working**

**Active travel options will allow residents to make more positive choices**

**Provide opportunities for the electrification of transport (including school transport)**

- Avoid and lower transport cost
- Promote Healthier lifestyles and have healthier residents.
- More energy efficient travel options
- Increased electric charging points for all to use
- Saved transport time from remote working
- Lower Pollution levels in built up areas



Areas of focus	Benefits
<b>Build local supply chains and industries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The circular economy principles reduce the need to spend</li> </ul>
<b>Help develop the circular economy in Powys</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More opportunities are found for the Council to meet its needs</li> </ul>
<b>New frameworks make the sustainable choice visible to decision makers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community benefits from procurement increased</li> </ul>
<b>Create opportunities for the use of more sustainable products and services to supply to the council.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demand for repairing helps create local skills which can service the wider community</li> </ul>
<b>Innovative procurement to tackle climate change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More sustainable products being purchased for day-to-day needs</li> </ul>



<b>Areas of focus</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<b>Understand the environmental impact on our land and the opportunities available</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We can measure climate impacts from our land</li><li>• Protect land-based businesses, including agriculture, horticulture and forestry through climate resilience</li><li>• Improved community health and wellbeing</li><li>• Decreased flood risk</li></ul>
<b>Support and encourage best practice including local sustainability and innovators.</b>	
<b>Give our local communities a voice to help express local preferences through place-based planning</b>	
<b>Encourage community groups to develop green spaces and other similar initiatives</b>	



## Council and governance



Page 44

Areas of focus	Benefits
<b>Integrate emerging legislation and strategy plans from international to local - UN, UK, Wales, Mid Wales and Powys</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain the resources to enable the transition</li> <li>• Compliance with a complex and evolving regulatory framework</li> <li>• Be globally responsible</li> <li>• Identifying more funding options in support of net zero</li> <li>• Creating the environment for transformation</li> <li>• Create a highly desirable place to live, learn, work and play.</li> </ul>
<b>Utilise best practice</b>	
<b>Develop clear roles and responsibilities</b>	
<b>Build on the inclusive governance and collaboration framework for Climate Action</b>	
<b>Develop policies in support of climate action</b>	
<b>Support communities with carbon positive initiatives</b>	
<b>Provide training for our staff</b>	
<b>Develop funding opportunities to support our transformation</b>	



## Our Aims

To support the key areas of change and vision, we have identified some high-level key aims:

- ✓ To address climate change in a way consistent with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. Being prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, globally responsible, vibrant culture and cohesive communities by embedding climate change at the heart of vision 2025.
- ✓ To work in partnership to overcome barriers to the development of renewable energy across the county for local energy networks and to promote the sustainable and appropriate use of renewable resources from air, land and water
- ✓ To maximise opportunities for carbon sequestration and minimise carbon release through the appropriate management of our natural resources.
- ✓ To raise awareness so that our communities can understand the options and benefits of the choices they can make.
- ✓ To maximise the benefits of Welsh Government, UK government and wider funding opportunities to deliver change, innovate and scale-up.
- ✓ To promote funding programmes and initiatives in support of renewable energy and other energy saving projects.
- ✓ To rise to the challenge of the climate emergency and create a climate conscious and resilient Powys.

## Strategies and policies

There are a number of local, regional and national strategies and policies which have supported the development of this strategy. These include:

Local	Regional	National
<a href="#">Powys County Councils Corporate Improvement Plan</a>	<a href="#">Mid Wales Energy Strategy</a>	<a href="#">The Climate Change Act (2008)</a>
		<a href="#">The Sixth Carbon budget (2020)</a>
		<a href="#">Wales Climate Targets and Carbon budgets (2021)</a>
<b>Public Service Board (PSB) climate change, step 7</b> <b>A carbon positive Powys. Which is part of the</b> <b><a href="#">Towards 2040</a> – Powys PSB Well-being Plan.</b>	<a href="#">Vision for Growing Mid Wales Strategic Economic Plan &amp; Growth Deal Roadmap (May 2020)</a>	The Climate Change Risk Assessment (2021) from the climate change committee  <a href="#">UK Gov road to zero</a> Industrial decarbonisation strategy
<b>Brecon Beacons National Park <a href="#">Future Beacons</a></b>	Public Service Board Draft Regional Strategy by AECOM.	<a href="#">UK Gov Clean Air Strategy</a>
<a href="#">Welsh Local Government Association</a>		<a href="#">UK Gov Clean Growth Strategy</a>
<a href="#">Powys Climate strategy consultation</a>	Public Service Board Draft Regional Strategy Technical Companion Report by AECOM.	<a href="#">The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution</a>
<a href="#">Local Development Plan</a>		Energy white paper: Powering our net zero future.



## **Delivery/next steps**

This Strategy sets out Powys County Councils ambition and vision for transformation climate action. The journey for delivery will be detailed in a range of delivery plans, which will be engaged on and developed.

This strategy provides a framework for direct action by Powys County Council and will help us collaborate with our partners and influence our stakeholders across the county; what needs to come next is ACTION. We need to move from Strategy to Action immediately. Two key things are required to enable this, they are;

**Committed and collaborative leadership to lead and influence**  
**Resource and capacity to deliver**

These along with the key guiding principles will lay the foundation of action.

**To support the journey of delivery the strategy and actions will follow the Welsh Governments route map for change as detailed below. This route map will provide a clear pathway to change.**

## The Journey to net zero



### Moving up a gear - 2021-2022

Where understanding the context and what needs to be done is vital, and where action needs to accelerate



### Well on our way - 2022-2026

Where there is an expectation that low carbon is becoming the norm and we are definitely on the way to a net zero Welsh public sector



### Achieving our goal- 2026-2030

Where choosing zero carbon has become routine, culturally embedded, and self-regulating

Once detailed action plans have been developed and agreed the outcomes achieved will align to these three step changes under our five keys areas of change: Buildings, Mobility and transport, Procurement, Land use and Agriculture, and Council and Governance.

## How we will monitor progress

An essential part of this strategy is monitoring and regular review. Once the Council has a county baseline along with detailed action plans, we will develop a robust monitoring framework to report on progress and outcomes. This will help us to understand which projects/actions work best, which provides the widest co-benefits, and which offer best value for money. The council's Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework will be followed in establishing the evaluation and monitoring of the strategy.

There are currently several Boards, such as the Climate Programme Board, Public Service Board, and the Cross-Party climate working group which the climate agenda sits. Their roles and responsibilities will need to be reviewed and we will need to ensure that there is an effective platform to drive, monitor and manage the counties Climate change journey. Key to this platform will be engagement and collaboration from our partners.



## Closing statement

When we chose the path of listening to the climate science and proactively acting in a strategic way, **we see that the solutions to climate change are so often the solution to other hurdles.**

From affordable warmth to flood resistance, from energy efficiency to creating space for nature, these solutions and many more “multisolve”. Tackling climate change is a key part of transformation, a transformation which will affect us all and requires us all to embrace.

**Through this vision we will save lives, improve livelihoods, and offer a realistic and aspirational vision of sustainable living in Powys for all.**

## Appendix 1

Below are a sample of suggestions of *'what more can be done'* gathered via the Strategies public engagement exercise. Please note that the comments below are a sample.

<b>Buildings - What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans</b>	
<b>What about planning? Could more be done in the assessment of applications against the targets for net zero and natures recovery?</b>	Work with Welsh Government to alter the subsidy land owners already receive to produce food, to focus more on land management to maximise opportunities for carbon sequestration and promote more biodiversity and places for nature.
<b>Sell off more public buildings to simply reduce your corporate footprint and use recycled materials in construction and refurbished office furniture etc</b>	Integration and scale are really important. Linking in with maintenance work and making sure work is done at a big enough scale to meet the challenge of net zero and at a pace which meets net zero by 2030.
<b>Look to provide energy for council buildings that can also be used in nearby homes.</b>	Promote net zero for all new building in private sector via planning etc
<b>Only use materials available within the County.</b>	sustainable planning of community areas
<b>provide relevant support for educating in key areas of need to meet the energy efficient housing by creating green jobs and developing a greener workforce.</b>	Sustainable food production - of healthy, nutritious affordable food, and de-intensifying farming, creating shorter supply chains as local as possible
<b>Give consideration to restoring and repairing buildings as an alternative to new build.</b>	Working to inform Powys residents of the actions they can take personal responsibility for and facilitating these
<b>Free up plots for self-builders with strong eco plans</b>	Sustainable planning of community areas
<b>A focus on lobbying for further reflections of the climate emergency in owner occupied housing - building regulations etc</b>	Given the old building stock in our town centres, I think we should have a programme of carbon footprinting businesses and shops and provide support to better insulate these buildings and instal other energy efficiency measures.
<b>Industrial units and agricultural buildings - better regulation, education and monitoring regarding environmental impacts re pollution</b>	provide training and help for local people to set up businesses to build energy-efficient buildings and carry out renewable energy retrofitting at an affordable rate for all to be able to improve the public's ability to be more energy efficient

## Mobility and Transport - What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans

<b>Low-cost public transport to reduce car usage</b>	Promote the development of alternative fuels such as hydrogen
<b>Introduce small scale wind and solar generation to all Powys Carparks to subsidise the use of more charging points.</b>	Support the re-opening of railway lines
<b>Safer Cycling - Cycle lanes</b>	The creation of subsidised carpools with up-to-date vehicles.
<b>Affordable and available public transport, rural areas are forced to rely on cars due to very limited public transport availability</b>	Reward and incentivise car and lift share; rationalise parking - do not insist on unnecessary parking spaces for new planning applications
<b>Increase access to footpaths by better signing</b>	Join up public transport- eg buses go to and stops at train stations.
<b>Investigate further the concept of "20-minute neighbourhood" - i.e. provide as many services as possible within a 20 minute walk, including shopping, recreation and work.</b>	Subsidise and increase the availability and spread of public transport - if more people can use it, they will be enabled and empowered to make a lasting change.
<b>Safer Walking - Pavements</b>	Charging network for electric vehicles
<b>Transport partners to work closely with providers of essential services to provide transport plans to the essentials. Including active travel, public transport, shared mobility, and mobility hubs</b>	Optional extra a tenner a month bus pass from each household on their council tax bills.
<b>Provide support for the uptake of e-bikes, e-cargo bikes and adapted cycles</b>	Reduce the speed limit on country roads, which will lessen pollution and make the roads safer for different modes of transport
<b>Implement 20mph limits in built up areas to increase safety for people walking, wheeling and cycling</b>	Improve and reinstate footpaths, bridleways, and cycleways in rural areas to link homes to villages and towns to support Active Travel options
<b>Promote locally produced food so the distance to market is shorter</b>	Better broadband would help reduce travel, increase education and availability to those not IT enabled

**Procurement - What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans**

<b>Minimum environmental impact should be given weight in procurement</b>	Focus on reducing the need, prior to sourcing the products.
<b>Encourage and enable the growing of more plant based foods in the county, especially fruit, vegetables and oats.</b>	Food from local farmers
<b>Make sure that local foods are used in School dinners and County Council refreshment areas as much as possible</b>	Enabling Local Markets at community centres or schools
<b>Make the right policies first to build the business case for circular and sustainable economy in Powys. Have strict criteria on what can't be purchased i.e very polluting products or high carbon products.</b>	Creating localised buying club to overcome the issues of value for money and be prepared to break down contract sizes as Powys has no supplier giants able to compete.
<b>Carbon audit on all procurement decision making</b>	Support and encourage responsible procurement by others
<b>Make sure all your contracts are accessible locally by local suppliers and providers. Keep the money we pay to Powys in Powys for the benefit of Powys people.</b>	Help the public to be able to choose more sustainable products at a price we can afford ie. not more expensive than current non-environmentally friendly products and packaging
<b>Development of guidance, tools and training for procurement professionals to support low carbon decisions</b>	Emphasise to decision makers how important making the most sustainable choices is
<b>Carbon audit on all procurement decision making</b>	Purchase food from local suppliers in all council buildings/schools

## Land use and Agriculture - What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans

<b>Nature recovery to increase biodiversity</b>	Education of our environment and its impact needs to be better delivered to schools and communities
<b>Focus on supporting upland farmers and landowners to increase soil carbon and thus soil water storage capacity through improved grazing/pasture management - important for carbon sequestration</b>	Providing the tools to deliver on best practice and lead on local sustainability and innovation.
<b>The promotion of agroforestry (planting trees amongst crops) in the local area should be a top priority to combat soil degradation.</b>	I would like to a focus on financial support for farmers to move away from sheep and poultry farming, so that land can be used for activities that promote carbon sequestration (eg tree-planting), reduce agricultural carbon footprints and river pollution, and promote the expansion of biodiversity
<b>Council farms to be net zero by default</b>	more supportive of the Welsh Government's targets on phosphate levels in rivers.
<b>Encourage and facilitate tree planting and local water retention</b>	- Reduce the need to, for example, remove hedgerows, trees, wild areas - add to them instead
<b>All hill tops should be covered in trees to reduce erosion and flooding downhill.</b>	Support Community groups (via funding etc) to create strong localised services and opportunities.
<b>Encourage local food growing initiatives to build food security, supporting organic and regenerative agriculture.</b>	Support those who want to convert land in Powys to horticulture, especially the younger generation who lack access to suitable land.
<b>We want to see every public owned land being used for people and nature (greenspaces used for sustainable urban drainage, native street trees and new woodlands, wildflowers everywhere, support plans for beaver reintroductions, stop using pesticides</b>	Plant native woodlands, food forests and agroforestry, transfer land management to local communities.
<b>Buy unused/unsustainably used land for use by sustainable community projects</b>	Alternative business model for livestock farmers, producing different crops, sequestering carbon, and generating energy

## Appendix 2

### Glossary/definitions

<b>Net Positive</b>	<b>Net Positive is a way of doing business which puts back more into society, the environment, and the global economy than it takes out.</b>
<b>Climate resilient</b>	The ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to climate change.
<b>Ecosystems</b>	The ecosystem is the structural and functional unit of ecology where the living organisms interact with each other and the surrounding environment. In other words, an ecosystem is a chain of interaction between organisms and their environment.

## Climate Strategy Survey Summary

This Climate Strategy survey was conducted from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The survey was advertised to stakeholders via external communications channels including press, email, and regular social media posts and internally to staff.

There were 170 respondents to the online survey and five responses by email.

## Key Findings

### Climate Change

*(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered 'strongly agree' or 'agree' to the statements.)*

Climate change is important to me	<b>97%</b>
I am concerned about the impacts of climate change	<b>96%</b>
The council should have science-based climate targets	<b>96%</b>

**96%** are already taking action on climate change. The **top 5 actions** already being taken by respondents are:

- **14%** reduce what they buy new.
- **13%** repair what they already own.
- **13%** expand the lifetime of products through good maintenance.
- **13%** buy used, refurbished or re-manufactured goods.
- **12%** buy sustainable options e.g. from recycled content or low carbon

### The Climate Strategy

*(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' to the statements.)*

The title of the report – Red Kite Climate Vision and Strategy	<b>43%</b>
The motivation statements (foreword, introduction, the need for action now)	<b>54%</b>
The view ahead (vision, what could Powys look, sound and feel like)	<b>63%</b>
The mission statement	<b>51%</b>
The six objectives	<b>50%</b>

Those who selected 'dissatisfied' or 'very dissatisfied' were given the opportunity to comment why they had answered in that way, the main themes included:

- The use of 'Red Kite' in the title and as a repeated example throughout the report
- Lack of clarity on the 'plan of action' - just words
- No specific agriculture/food security/farmland references
- No 'urgency' or emphasis on 'emergency'
- Lack of mentions of ecological crisis/biodiversity
- Nothing on waste management/recycling
- Should mention benefits to people e.g. better health, etc.
- Could be simpler/less jargon
- Objectives are not SMART

## Approach, focus and priorities

The publication - [“Net zero carbon status by 2030 - A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh public sector”](#) suggests five priority areas of Buildings, Procurement, Mobility and Transport, Land use and Governance.

The statistics below are based on respondents who answered ‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’ that that these areas are suitable for the public sector to reach net zero by 2030:

Buildings	<b>89%</b>
Mobility and transport	<b>89%</b>
Procurement	<b>87%</b>
Land use	<b>85%</b>
Council and governance	<b>82%</b>

Top areas of focus for each of the key areas for change were provided and ranked by respondents (*where 1 is top priority*):

### Buildings

1. Energy efficient housing
2. Deploy renewable energy where possible at our sites and on our buildings
3. 21<sup>st</sup> Century net zero schools
4. Use timber and other locally available natural building materials where possible

### Mobility and transport

1. Work with transport partners to improve transport infrastructure
2. Promote public transport
3. Reduce the need for travel – opportunities for remote working
4. Active Travel options will allow residents to make more positive choices
5. Provide opportunities for the electrification of transport (including school transport)

### Procurement

1. Build local supply chains and industries
2. Help develop the circular economy in Powys
3. New frameworks that ensure that the most sustainable choice is clear to decision makers
4. Create opportunities for the use of more sustainable products and services to supply to the Council

### Land use

1. Understand the environmental impact on our land and the opportunities available
2. Support and encourage best practice including local sustainability and innovators
3. Give our local communities a voice to help express local preferences through place-based planning
4. Encourage community groups to develop green spaces and other similar initiatives



When asked if they would add a different area of focus to the list, themes included:

#### **Buildings**

- Net-zero private sector housing
- Support/advice/grants on how to make homes more energy efficient
- Restore/repair/conserve/retrofit older (and listed) buildings
- Educate builders/trades
- Planning controls
- All buildings not just residential

#### **Mobility and Transport**

- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Low-cost/Free public transport and taxi service for remote areas
- Promote and reward/incentivise car sharing
- Hydrogen vehicles

#### **Procurement**

- Food/produce from local farmers/suppliers
- Guidance to help business support low-carbon decision making
- Emphasis on Powys Pound

#### **Land use**

- Tree planting
- Sustainable practises, including food production
- No intensive farming
- Community green spaces/growing areas/sustainable projects

### **Just Transition**

All large changes have impacts, while climate change is referred to by some as an equality issue due to the impacts often hitting those least responsible and the poorest hardest. While the end goal benefits all, i.e. a safe climate, lower risks of flooding, storm damage, erosion, etc.

A 'Just Transition' means to make sure that changes are fair, and opportunities for involvement are maximised, including for those on low incomes and otherwise vulnerable. A 'Just Transition' is 'very important' or 'important' to **92%** of respondents.

### **Appendices**

When asked about the appendices of the strategy, respondents were asked to rate their preference for each one with both recommended as 'adds important information to keep':

- Appendix 1: Building a vision - **75%**
- Appendix 2: Integration - **81%**

## Potential stakeholder group

**36%** of respondents highlighted that they would be interested in joining a stakeholder group.

Those with an interest were asked for their name and contact details and some follow-up questions:

Topics they would be interested to talk on (out of the key areas mentioned earlier in the survey): Buildings; Mobility and transport; Procurement; Land; and Governance. Land was the most popular choice (35%) and Procurement the least popular (9%).

Level of expertise in climate change (from Casual Observer through to Professional with 10+ years experience):

- Casual observer: **7%**
- Long-term interest: **56%**
- Professional - new to field: **4%**
- Professional - 2 years experience: **4%**
- Professional - 5 years experience: **2%**
- Professional - 10years+ experience: **27%**

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**Cabinet  
1 March 2022**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Cllr Beverley Baynham  
Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Planning  
and Regulatory Services

**REPORT TITLE:** WCCIS replacement proposal

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To propose the replacement of Social Care key information and recording system, WCCIS as mitigation for the ongoing high risk to the organisation. To consider the proposed benefits, dis-benefits, costs and timeline for a replacement system.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In April 2016, to meet the necessary functional requirements of a solution to support the required integrated working, Local Authorities and NHS Wales organisations have procured Welsh Community Care Information Solution (WCCIS) ensuring that the business and technical design is citizen-centred and allows professionals to access and share information at a cost of £604.947, including £91k annual contract cost.
- 2.2 The current WCCIS administration and support team is split between Powys County Council and Powys Teaching Health Board.
- 2.3 WCCIS has been a nationally funded initiative designed to support the integration of Health and Social Care in Wales. The technology that underpins this initiative is an IT platform called CareDirector supplied by Advanced Health and Care Systems.
- 2.4 CareDirector is the primary Social Care case management system used in 15 of the 22 Welsh authorities, including Powys County Council. Powys County Council (PCC) has made significant progress in implementing and using WCCIS since its deployment in April 2017. Local forms and processes have been developed, users upskilled and supported, and a bespoke internal reporting function enabled. However, notwithstanding the recent systems and server upgrades, there are significant and ongoing challenges.

2.5 Throughout 2020 and 2021 Social Care leadership team along with digital Services have increased their involvement in national and local contractual meetings in order to work collaboratively on the delivery and improvement of a reliable and efficient WCCIS solution. This has not resulted in any clear improvements to reliability or commitments to improve system availability as an urgent concern.

2.6 In July 2021 digital Services commissioned BetterGov to undertake a review of WCCIS with the following objectives:

*To investigate the future use of WCCIS for Powys, including:*

*High-level review of the WCCIS System for PCC including Identification of issues/risks and impacts within the National context.*

*To complete a business case including Options appraisal to investigate appropriate and effective Social Care case management systems*

2.7 BetterGov have concluded that: Powys County Council (PCC) has made significant progress in implementing and using WCCIS since its deployment in April 2017. Local forms and processes have been developed, users upskilled and supported, and a bespoke internal reporting function enabled. However, notwithstanding the recent systems and server upgrades, there are significant and ongoing challenges that include:

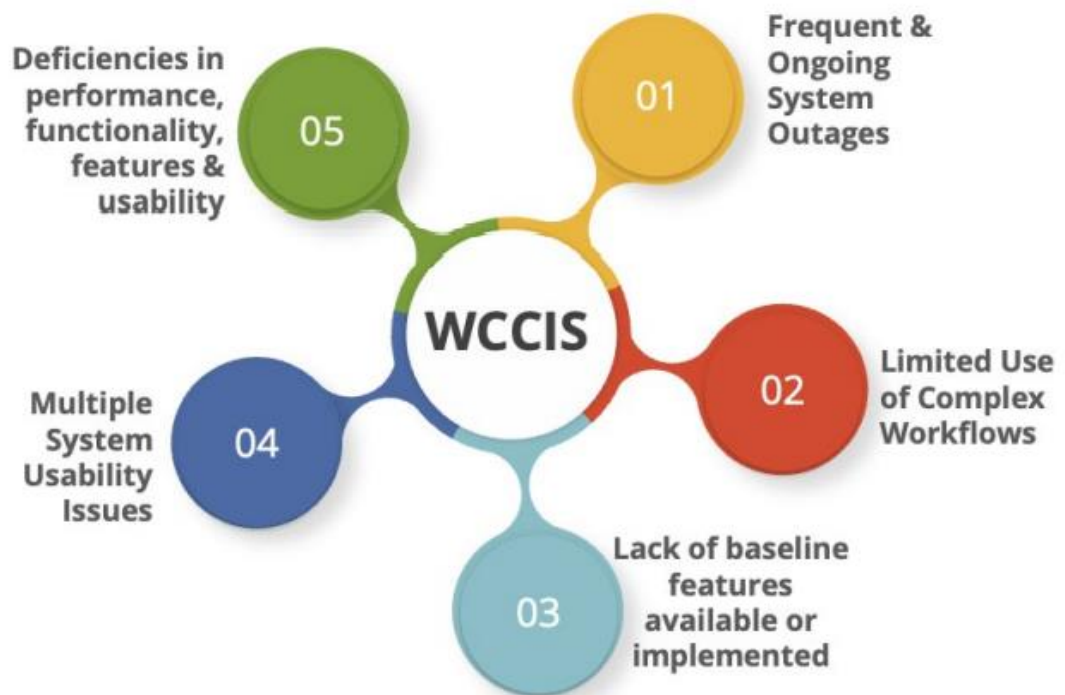


Figure 1: WCCIS System Challenges

2.8 BetterGov report has concluded that a move to a replacement system is advisable and have provided the below recommendations:

Recommendation	Weeks / Months	Cost
<p><b>1. PCC immediately commission an in-depth technical review</b> in conjunction with the WCCIS National Team and Advanced. The most pressing issue and one that poses the greatest risk to Adult’s and Children’s is the stability and access to the system.</p>	2-3 weeks	£11,250 - £15,000
<p><b>2. A soft market-testing (SMT) exercise is undertaken</b> to assess the latest version of the CareDirector product (v6) against its competitors, again as a matter of priority, <b><u>prior to any commitments being made to upgrade from the current WCCIS product to it. This market testing can form part of a wider Invitation to Tender (ITT),</u></b> to assess and award to the next version or move to a new supplier. See <a href="#">Appendix 5</a> for an example procurement plan.</p>	<p>SMT 4-6 Weeks ----- ITT 10-12 Weeks</p>	<p>Internal: £25-35k ----- External: £50-60k</p>
<p><b>3. PCC produce a local 12-month strategic roadmap</b> that clarifies and prioritises supplier contractual deliverables and identifies national and local initiatives to make the most of the current v5-R2016 product. The reason for this initiative is whilst the case for change dictates the necessity to move to a different version or system, the process will take no less than 12 months. See <a href="#">Appendix 6</a> for an example stakeholder analysis to advise a strategic roadmap.</p>	8-10 weeks	Internal: £17k External: £27k
<p><b>4. PCC Implement Advanced v6 or another alternative supplier system.</b> See <a href="#">Appendix 7</a> for an example implementation plan.</p>	<p>Upgrade 4-6 Months ----- New System 12-18 months</p>	<p>Upgrade: TBC ----- New System Internal: £1.2m External: £1.17m</p>

Table 1: Recommendations

### 3. Options

- 3.1 The first consideration is to confirm if Powys County Council wish to continue with the current supplier and contract to March 2024 with ongoing risks and safeguarding concerns.
- 3.2 The second option is to fund the options appraisal for a replacement system and seek further approval for a new system based on the findings.
- 3.3 The third option is if there is an appetite to fund the development of a new system following the recommendation as set out in 2.8. A system would require the purchase cost of a new system developed estimated at £1.17million, and associated implementation revenue costs of £1.2million

#### **4. Resource Implications**

- 4.1 Any decision to move systems will incur capital purchase costs, revenue implementation costs and ongoing contract and administration costs. Which can be further determined after completion of the Invitation to Tender (ITT), but indicative costs are provided in 2.8.4 which would be split across 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- 4.2 It is possible to align existing digital transformation resource and some existing WCCIS resource to deliver social care digital transformation and the onboarding of a new system as a combined project. This would require an intense agile transformation programme for social care and digital transformation teams with all other planned work and WCCIs improvement activity put on hold. This would also reduce most of the additional revenue cost burden outlined in 2.8.4.
- 4.3 The alignment of resource from Digital Transformation would result in the current programme being put on hold. All identified transformation is currently being reviewed to outline risk but currently no known savings will be affected as identified by service IBP's.
- 4.4 The service redesign and digital transformation would be led by Ali Bulman as Senior Responsible Officer to ensure the programme maximises opportunities for change and focuses all required resources across social care to drive change using our agile transformation methodology. This transformation will reduce the need for current duplication of work identified by many front line staff who struggle to use the WCCIS system efficiently and assist in making future digital transformation savings identified in the FRM.
- 4.5 Any new system implementation would also require the integral work of Business Intelligence reporting to ensure statutory reporting duties are provided before implementation of any new system. BI resource would also have to focus on social care during this time.
- 4.6 Alignment of resource to social care would have an impact on current plans to develop systems or business information for other service areas. Most of this work would need to be on hold whilst resources are aligned to social care transformation.
- 4.7 The only additional revenue costs to support the project are estimated at an additional £100k for staffing and ongoing contract value costs and will be funded via Social Care grant application which is as yet unsecured.
- 4.8 Capital costs of £1.2m are estimated at this point in time and provision should be noted for requirement in 2023/24 financial year. An allocation is currently included in the capital programme as a pipeline scheme for

Digital Powys (£2.4m). It is proposed to fund from this allocation and once a business case is approved the budget will be released to the service. It is estimated that the borrowing costs to fund this scheme are £215,000 per year for six years, these costs are already included in the Councils Financial Resource Model (FRM).

- 4.9 The Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer notes the content of the report. Provision is made within the FRM to finance the potential capital costs as set out in section 4.8, the revenue budget is however approved on an annual basis so not yet agreed, approval of the recommendation will confirm this commitment. The redirection of digital transformation resource to work on this project will delay the implementation of other projects which could have an impact on the delivery of future revenue savings in other services. The full impact of this is not clearly identified at this stage but would need to be considered as budget plans for future years are developed.

## **5. Legal implications**

- 5.1 Legal: We must be careful to take ensure that the WCCIS contractual arrangements are terminated properly . In essence they can be terminated for convenience but upon payment of a Termination Payment or for cause . In either case we must ensure that the correct processes are followed to avoid duplication of costs ie to WCCIS and for a new system

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **6. Data Protection**

- 6.1 Whilst the legal basis for the processing of personal data has already been identified any change in computer systems will necessitate a number of actions to ensure data protection compliance, including implementing privacy by design, Data Protection Impact Assessments, and the development of processes and agreements to share personal information as required.

## **7. Recommendation**

- 7.1 To note the requirement for a replacement social care system.

- 7.2 To approve the re-focus of digital transformation for Social Care to align resource to ensure the most effective procurement of a replacement system for WCCIS.
- 7.3 To approve the provision of capital expenditure of £1.2m in 2023/24 from the digital transformation provision, subject to further investigation.

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Head of Service: Diane Reynolds

Corporate Director: Nigel Brinn



**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET  
1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Rachel Powell  
Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

**REPORT TITLE:** National Collaborative Arrangements for Welsh (local authority) Adoption and Fostering services

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Powys County Council to participate in the national Joint Committee for Adoption and Fostering Services in Wales.

**2. Background**

2.1 The National Adoption Service (NAS) was set up in 2014 and has enabled significant change and improvement in adoption services across Wales. Its structure and governance through national, regional, and local arrangements were agreed by all council at that time.

2.2 The legal basis underpinning the NAS is contained in section 3A of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (which was inserted by the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014) and the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Joint Adoption Arrangements) (Wales) Directions 2015. These set out in detail expectation on local authorities to co-operate at regional and national level to deliver and improve adoption services.

2.3 The Directions set out the aims of NAS, require regional collaborative arrangements to be established and specify some governance arrangements for the management and oversight of NAS. The establishment of the NAS was underpinned by a Governance Board and an independently chaired Advisory Group at national level and the identification of a host local authority and the appointment of a Director of Operations. Powys is part of the Mid and West Wales Adoption Service with Carmarthenshire being the host local authority.

2.4 The Directions do not contain provisions that explicitly create a mechanism that gives proper legal effect to the co-operation at

national level or for the agreement with one local authority to host national functions. The Joint Committee, and the agreement that will accompany it, will put this on a formal legal footing as well as providing greater clarity and certainty for all local authorities, as well as the National Adoption Service and Foster Wales.

- 2.5 Whilst there is a central team supporting and facilitating the NAS, it should be noted that the NAS is made up of the central team, the regional collaborative arrangements, and the local adoption teams. Individual local authorities remain legally responsible and accountable for the provision of adoption and fostering services. In practice this means that as Corporate Parents Powys Children's Services continue to make the complex and life informing decisions for the children placed in our care.
- 2.6 In respect of adoption services, the legal provisions outlined above require adoption responsibilities to be delivered in accordance with the arrangements for the National Adoption Service. There is no similar structure in Wales for such a collaborative endeavour that include arrangements at national, regional, and local levels working together. Aligning activities to ensure collaborative work at all levels towards the stated aims of improvement of adoption services across Wales has been challenging and while evidenced improvements have been made, the governance arrangements have been cumbersome and were not felt to be the most effective arrangements.
- 2.7 A review of NAS took place in 2018 that led to streamline governance and improve effectiveness and accountability. Some of the proposed changes from the review have already been implemented. A Combined Governance Board (bringing together the Advisory Group and Governance Board as required by legislation) and the development of a new Partnership Agreement to replace the original functional model that had originally been developed.
- 2.8 Legal advice obtained by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) reflected that in order for NAS to operate effectively on behalf of all 22 Welsh authorities, and for there to be a robust arrangement with the host authority for the provision of the national and enabling functions: cooperation between Welsh local authorities needed to be put on a formal footing.
- 2.9 At the WLGA Executive Board meeting (26 October 2018) it was agreed that improved governance and accountability arrangements would be best delivered through a Joint Committee established by the WLGA. Work on establishing a National Joint Committee has now taken place and it is now necessary to seek agreement to participate in such a Joint Committee by all councils at an individual level.

### 3. Advice

- 3.1 Since 2015, the National Adoption Service Director of Operations and central team has also been supporting the work of the National Fostering Framework (NFF) to create a similar national, regional, and local collaborative arrangement to improve Welsh fostering services, albeit not through creation of a national fostering service. Foster Wales has now emerged from the work of NFF and will support a defined range of fostering functions linked to recruitment and retention of local authority foster carers.
- 3.2 To reduce duplication and costs, as well as maximise resilience, flexibility, and longevity across both functions, and to ensure appropriate governance and accountability arrangements are in place for Foster Wales, it is proposed that the Joint Committee, and the agreement underpinning it, be extended to Foster Wales. Capacity to enable and support national co-ordination of Foster Wales will be through a combined Central Team. The linking to the Joint Committee is critical for Foster Wales given the lack of a legislative basis for such co-operation for fostering services.
- 3.3 The proposed governance structure is presented diagrammatically and with a narrative in Appendix 1. It is proposed that the national Joint Committee will, on behalf of the 22 local authorities, exercise their powers for provision of the collaboration arrangements for the National Adoption Service for Wales and for Foster Wales. It will be comprised of Council Members to be appointed via the WLGA meeting twice yearly.
- 3.4 Lawyers engaged by the WLGA on behalf of NAS have drafted a Joint Committee Legal Agreement for consideration by all 22 local authorities. The establishment of a Joint Committee is now ready to be taken forward. Based on other Joint Committee agreements already in place, a summary of the provisions is attached at Appendix 2. The draft Agreement also contains a formal Scheme of Delegation and provision for the formal agreement with the host local authority for national functions. If agreed, the Joint Committee will provide the mechanism for all Welsh local authorities to discharge an executive and oversight role for NAS and FW. It will approve / receive:
- The annual report for NAS and of FW
  - The annual programme of work for the NAS and for FW
  - The budget for the office of the Director and national work for NAS and for FW
  - The agreement, and any changes to the agreement, for the host authority support of the office of the Director and national work for NAS and FW

3.5 It is proposed that prior to consideration of the draft agreement by each council, engagement and consultation will take place with local authority Monitoring Officers to ensure there is a collective agreement as to what is contained in the agreement for a Joint Council.

3.6 For the National Adoption Service only, the Joint Committee will also oversee how the authorities work together to exercise their powers and comply with the National Assembly Directions.

#### **4. Resource Implications**

4.1 The establishment of a Joint Committee does not require specific funding and any costs for the administration of the Joint Committee will be covered by the WLGA.

4.2 The core funding for the national functions for the national Adoption Service and Foster Wales is provided from a top slice of the Revenue Support Grant (made available through the WLGA). This allocation, currently £473,000 per annum for adoption and £400,000 per annum for fostering, is subject to the agreement of Councils through WLGA periodically.

4.3 In addition each Council participates in the national service with their contribution represented by their individual Fostering and Adoption Teams supporting the national service. The Powys Team are funded by Children services core budget. In 2021/22 Powys also funded approximately £120k more for spot purchases.

4.4 The Councils contribution of the fostering and adoption Team will continue and an additional £40k is included within the budget being proposed to Council on the 24<sup>th</sup> to increase Children's Services base budget to support any additional spot purchases from 2022/23.

4.5 Foster Wales has been awarded Welsh Government grant funding up to the end of March 2023 to fund specific purposes, this is £573,000 for 2021/22 reducing by a small amount for 2022/23. Welsh Government investment is available to adoption, and this is fully utilised for direct service delivery through the regional structure.

4.6 The total cost of the proposed national structure is £586,384 for 2021/22 salary rates. Total available core budget across NAS and Foster Wales for 2021/22 is circa £1,449,000 albeit that over half the Foster Wales funding stream is subject to Welsh Government grant conditions for specific purposes as indicated above. The structure is affordable up to the end of Welsh Government Grant period (31.03.23) but there are pressures on staffing and operating budgets for both NAS and Foster Wales beyond that point. The financial pressures have

been flagged with the Welsh Government and work is commencing to consider how to resolve this beyond the current grant aid period.

4.7 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes from the resources section the current contribution from the Council to the national service in terms of staffing and some additional spot purchases, and that the national service will continue to be supported in this way together with Welsh Government Grant for the next financial year. There is a risk that if that funding ceases the Council as a partner in the Joint committee could be asked to provide additional funding to maintain the service. Any additional contribution if required would be subject to further Cabinet consideration at that time.

## **5. Legal implications**

5.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **6. Data Protection**

6.1 There is no personal data contained in this report.

## **7. Impact Assessment**

7.1 There is no impact on service provision, staffing or change to service delivery, this proposal is just to formally agree the joint committee which will only strengthen the national and regional governance arrangements. Therefore, an Impact Assessment is not required'

## **8. Conclusion**

8.1 The WLGA Spokesperson for Social Services and Health and local authority Cabinet Members have been kept informed of progress of National Adoption Service and Foster Wales via WLGA Cabinet Member Meetings and previous reports have been provided to the WLGA Executive Board. Councillor Alan Lockyear of Neath Port Talbot (on behalf of the WLGA Spokesperson) co-chairs the Combined Governance Board with an independent Chair (Phil Hodgson, a previous Director of Social Services in Wales) with elected members representing their regions: Cllr Andy Atkinson (Wrexham), Cllr Ben Gray (Vale of Glamorgan), Cllr John Mason (Blaenau Gwent), Cllr Kim

Broom (Carmarthenshire) and Cllr Graham Hinchey (Cardiff). All are in support of the proposed way forward for the future governance and accountability of NAS and FW through the establishment of a Joint Committee. The Association of Director of Social Services in Wales (ADSS Cymru) are also supportive of the proposed way forward.

8.2 The proposals outlined in establishing a Joint Committee for NAS and FW are being progressed to formalise and consolidate the existing position of the Central Team in respect of the work currently undertaking with the regions and local adoption teams. This will allow both collaborative arrangements to continue to function and meet agreed plans and commitments in the short to medium term to enable NAS and FW to effectively achieve their stated aims.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 Members are asked to:

Note and comment on the contents of this report

Support the proposal to establish a Joint Committee via the WLGA to provide governance and accountability arrangements for the National Adoption Service for Wales and Foster Wales

Support engagement with local Monitoring Officers to ensure that there is collective agreement to the draft Joint Committee Agreement

Formally consider these issues and approve agreement for Powys County Council to engage and participate in this proposed Joint Committee.

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**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET EXECUTIVE****1 March 2022****REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander  
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care****REPORT TITLE: Partnership Agreement for the provision of the Regional  
Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team from  
April 2022 to March 2026**

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**REPORT FOR: Decision / Discussion**

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**1. Purpose**

**1.1** The purpose of this paper is to highlight the development and seek approval on a Partnership Agreement between Powys County Council, Powys Teaching Health Board and Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations ( See Appendix 1) for the provision of the Powys Regional Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team.

**1.2** This agreement sets out funding in relation to the Regional Infrastructure Team, which provides management of the Regional Partnership Board functions, as required by duties under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014.

**1.3** The purpose of the agreement is to formalise the use of the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) in delivering the Regional Infrastructure Team, as required by the Welsh Government's RIF Guidance.

**1.4** The Regional Infrastructure Team will ensure that there is sufficient resource in place to support the co-ordination of the Powys Regional Partnership Board to enable the Board and its partners to effectively carry out its duties.

**2. Background**

**2.1** Currently, the Regional Infrastructure Team is funded through the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), however, this funding stream is ending in March 2022. In order to ensure the Regional Partnership Board has a sufficient level of infrastructure support to enable the board to deliver on its priorities, it is imperative that resource is secured to support this.

**2.2** PTHB, PCC and PAVO are committed to working together in partnership to improve the lives of Powys residents, so that people can start well, live

well and age well, living as independently as possible for as long as possible.

**2.3** The Regional Partnership Board works according to agreed guiding principles, values and behaviours as defined within the Powys RPB Terms of Reference and the Joint Health and Care Strategy, including those set out in the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014, and the Future Generations Act 2015.

**2.4** Each RPB has statutory duties as set out in the SSWBA. It is important that to effectively deliver against these duties, the RPB has a minimum number of core posts. The following key roles were identified as being required in each RPB as part of a recent Welsh Government mapping exercise of RPB Teams across Wales:

- Strategic support to the RPB, programme coordination and relationship management
- Strategic support, coordinating delivery of key RPB priority areas and priority models of care
- Core programme support, reporting and monitoring of key programmes using a flexible approach to programme / project management that focuses on meeting agreed outcomes
- Communications and engagement including citizen voice support
- Administration
- Strategic management of budgets and financial reporting
- Performance reporting and development of evaluation frameworks

**2.5** Welsh Government have committed to a new 5 year funding programme – the Health and Social Care Regional Integration Fund (RIF). As part of this investment, Welsh Government have stipulated that at a minimum the above posts should be supported through the RIF to ensure sufficient infrastructure support is in place for RPBs to carry out their duties.

**2.6** Welsh Government have stipulated within the RIF Guidance that RPBs must develop and agree partnership agreements to support good governance, accountability and decision-making processes with utilisation of RIF funding – this Partnership Written Agreement would therefore support this requirement in relation to the RPB Regional Infrastructure Team.

**2.7** Respective organisational governance processes will be followed for Powys Teaching Health Board and Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations in recognition that this is a Partnership agreement that will need consideration and approval by all relevant partners.

### **3. Advice**

**3.1** It is being proposed for Cabinet to:



- Discuss and offer any further comment on the Partnership Agreement
- Subject to any further comments, approve the Partnership Agreement for the provision of the Regional Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team.

3.2 Each RPB has statutory duties as set out in the SSWBA. The Regional Infrastructure Team is essential to effectively delivering against these duties.

3.3 The partners will comply with any statutory inspection requirements in relation to Services and will liaise as required with the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and/or Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and/or other regulatory bodies such as the Welsh Audit Office (WAO) and will also include the partners' appointed Internal Auditing Teams if required to do so.

## 4 Resource Implications

4.1 These proposals are within existing Council budgets.

4.2 The funding of the Regional Infrastructure Team is ringfenced within the Regional Integrated Fund. This requires an element of match funding from the partner organisations, which can be either monetary and/or resources match and is 25% of the total value of the team. The intention is for the Council to provide match through existing staff resources which are in the base budget of the commissioning service and, therefore, there are no further financial implications to the Council. For the core RPB Team this equates to the approximate value of £70k to the Council (this is from fully funded, existing staffing resource and therefore these proposals are within existing Council budgets.)

4.3 A breakdown of the full RPB Partnership Support arrangements is presented as follows:

CORE RPB FUNCTION & SUPPORT Costs - Staff / Non-Staff		
STAFF		
Function	Detail	Cost
RPB Coordinator	Strategic support to RPB, programme coordination, relationships	£93,350.00
Strategic Commissioning and Projects Manager	Strategic support, coordinating delivery of RPB priority areas	£67,550.00
Partnership and Programme Support Officer	Programme support, reporting and monitoring of key programmes	£47,209.00
RPB Project / Administration Officer	Admin / project support to support RPB Team	£16,430.00
Communications and Engagement Officer	Coordination of RPB Comms and Engagement, strengthening co-production and continuous engagement approaches across partnerships / programmes	£51,350.00
RPB Citizen / Carer Member Support	Supporting citizen / carer voice within RPB partnership / programme arrangements	£21,196.00
Start Well Change Manager	Strategic Partnership / Programme support for Start Well Partnership	£93,350.00
Strategic Workforce Futures Lead	Strategic coordination for joint workforce futures framework, interconnectedness	£68,975.00
Workforce Futures Business Manager	Programme management and support for workforce futures framework	£42,580.00
Workforce Futures Volunteer / Carers Manager	Development of School of Volunteers / Carers offer under H&C Academy	£34,387.00
Integrated Commissioning	Integrated commissioning and pooled funding arrangements (res care)	£61,680.00
Finance Leads	Financial management/ reporting in HB and LA	£75,000.00
Performance and Evaluation Officer	Performance reporting, development of performance / evaluation framework	£47,210.00
<b>Total Staff</b>		<b>£720,267.00</b>
NON-STAFF		
RPB Commissions to support completion of priority / statutory work		£20,000.00
RPB Continuous Engagement / Co-Production		£20,000.00
RPB Operational		£5,000.00
<b>Total non-staff</b>		<b>£45,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL STAFF and NON-STAFF</b>		<b>£765,267.00</b>

4.4A further breakdown of the RPB Partnership Support arrangements and costs team can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.5 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the report. The partnership agreement supports the funding of the Regional Infrastructure Team through the Regional Integrated Fund with the Council contributing the match funding element on the basis of existing staff which are funded from the service budget. On this basis the recommendation can be supported.

## **5 Legal implications**

5.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

## **6. Recommendation**

6.1 It is being recommended to approve the Partnership Agreement in Appendix 1 for the provision of the Regional Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team. This is to ensure there is sufficient resource in place to support the co-ordination of the Powys Regional Partnership Board to enable the Board and its partners to effectively carry out its duties and to meet Welsh Government RIF requirements.

6.2 If minor, not substantial, changes to the agreement are required by partner organisations, these may be approved by the Director of Social Services in consultation with the portfolio holder for Adult Social Care .

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Head of Service: Dylan Owen

Corporate Director: Alison Bulman

**Appendix 1 – Partnership Agreement** (which has following appendices within it)

- RPB Terms of Reference (and relevant appendices)
- RPB Partnership Support Arrangements Costs – detailed breakdown

**Version Control**

Title:	<b>Partnership Agreement for the provision of the Regional Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team</b>	Author(s):	<b>Joe Wellard &amp; Dylan Owen</b>
Date:	<b>19 January 2022</b>	Version:	<b>1.0</b>
Distribution:		Status:	<b>Draft for initial views of partners</b>



**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN:**

**Powys County Council (PCC)  
 Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) Powys  
 Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO)**

**FOR THE PROVISION OF THE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP  
 BOARD'S REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM FROM  
 APRIL 2022 TO MARCH 2026**

**Signed by Caroline Turner** .....  
**on behalf of Powys County Council**

**Dated**.....

**Signed by Carol Shillabeer** ..... **on behalf of Powys**  
**Teaching Health Board**

**Dated**.....

**Signed by Carl Cooper** .....  
**on behalf of Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations**

**Dated**.....

## 1. SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE AGREEMENT

### 1.1. Introduction, Description and Purpose of Agreement

1.1.1. PTHB, PCC and PAVO are committed to working together in partnership to improve the lives of Powys residents, so that people can start well, live well and age well, living as independently as possible for as long as possible.

1.1.2. The purpose of this agreement is to formalise the use of the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) in delivering the Regional Infrastructure Team, as required by the Welsh Government's RIF Guidance. This is to ensure that there is sufficient resource in place to support the co-ordination of the Powys Regional Partnership Board to enable the Board and its partners to effectively carry out its duties in relation to Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (SSWBA).

1.1.3. The Terms of Reference of the Powys Regional Partnership Board can be found in Appendix I.

1.1.4. The partners are those who host (employ) members of the wider Regional Infrastructure Team.

### 1.2. Principles and Approach to Delivery of the Agreement

1.2.1. The Regional Partnership Board works according to agreed guiding principles, values and behaviors as defined within the Powys RPB Terms of Reference and the Joint Health and Care Strategy, including those set out in the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014, and the Future Generations Act 2015.

### 1.3. Key Aims and Objectives of the Agreement

1.3.1. This agreement sets out funding in relation to the Regional Infrastructure Team, which provides management of the Regional Partnership Board functions, as required by duties under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014.

1.3.2. Each RPB has statutory duties as set out in the SSWBA. It is important that to effectively deliver against these duties, the RPB has a minimum number of core posts. A cross regional mapping exercise was conducted by the Welsh Government in 2021 to ensure RPBs (Regional Partnership Board) across Wales are consistently resourced across Wales. The following key roles were identified as being required in each RPB as part of the exercise:

- Strategic support to the RPB, programme coordination and relationship management
- Strategic support, coordinating delivery of key RPB priority areas and priority models of care
- Core programme support, reporting and monitoring of key programmes using a flexible approach to programme / project management that focuses on meeting agreed outcomes
- Communications and engagement including citizen voice support
- Administration
- Strategic management of budgets and financial reporting
- Performance reporting and development of evaluation frameworks

1.3.3. The benefits of the Regional Infrastructure Team will be:

- Improved Partnership and co-operation including RPB partnership development and support
- Robust scrutiny and performance management, programme development and oversight

- Meeting of statutory responsibilities placed on the Powys Regional Partnership Boards partners, such as Population Need Assessments, Market Stability Reports and Joint Area Plan developments.
- Improved Communications and Engagement across partners as part of a continuous engagement approach (including support for carers, citizens, third sector and provider engagement)
- Pooled Budget development and oversight and joint commissioning
- Promotion of the social value sector and managing the social value forum
- Robust and compliant fiscal management (non-programme related)
- Development of an Integrated Workforce

#### 1.4. Review Arrangements

1.4.1. The statutory RPB Annual Report will provide a strategic and financial update on this agreement and the Regional Infrastructure Team annually.

## Section 2: PERSONNEL, MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE

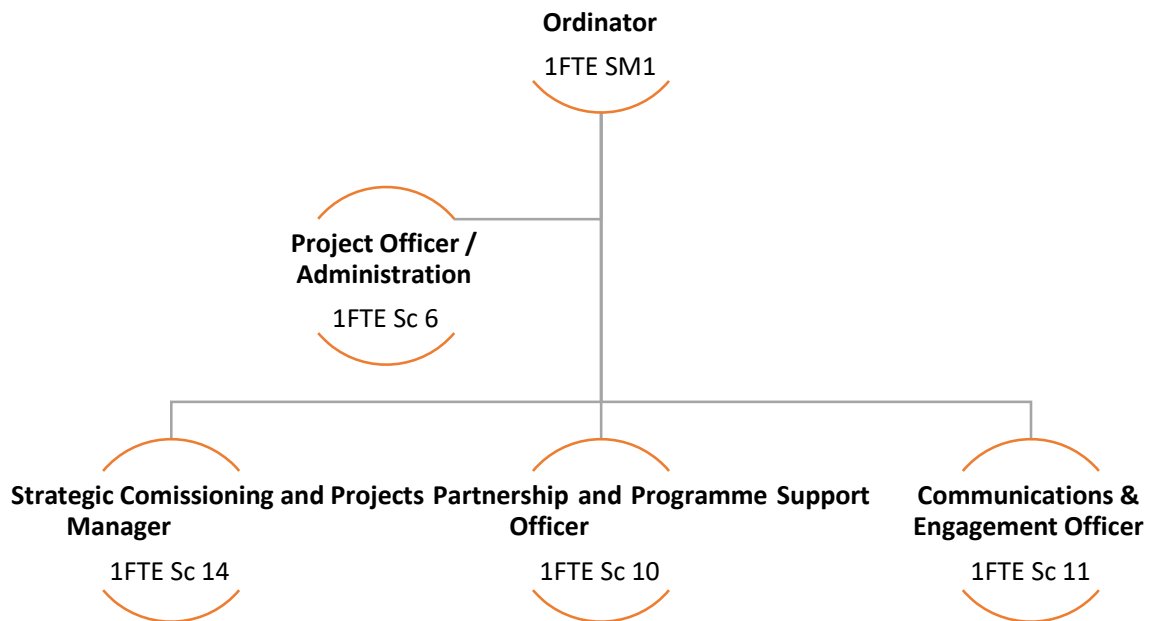
### 2.1 Management

2.1.1 The Regional Partnership Board will hold overall responsibility for the agreement, management, and adherence to its requirements.

### 2.2 Regional Partnership Board Regional Infrastructure Team

2.1.2 The following picture depicts the staff structure for the Core RPB Coordination Team, as at April 2022. However, it is recognised that this may change according to service requirements during the period of the agreement. Any such change will require agreement by the Regional Partnership Board.





2.1.3 The wider RPB Infrastructure Team includes other roles and posts which change over time and are also funded through this agreement. These are set out in **Appendix II.**

## Section 3: RESOURCES

### 3.1 Financial Governance and Financial Management Arrangements

3.1.1 Financial Governance and Financial Management Arrangements will be according to the Regional Partnership Board’s Terms of Reference (Appendix I).

3.1.2 The Powys Teaching Health Board will hold the Regional Integration Fund on behalf of the Regional Partnership Board, with a cohesive partnership approach to decision making in a collaborative manner when planning financial investment.



## 3.2 Funding Agreement

3.2.1 The details of the ringfenced funding for the Regional Infrastructure Team from the Regional Integrated Fund is set out in Appendix II.

3.2.2 The Regional Integrated Fund requires an element of match funding for this, and this is also set out in Appendix II. The match funding is the responsibility of the host organisation for the roles/posts within the Regional Infrastructure Team in question.

## 3.3 Financial Risks

3.3.1 Overspends to the agreed budget are not permitted without agreement of the Regional Partnership Board.

## 3.4 Performance and Audit Requirements

3.4.1 The partners will comply with any statutory inspection requirements in relation to Services and will liaise as required with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) and/or Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and/or other regulatory bodies such as the Welsh Audit Office (WAO) and will also include the partners' appointed Internal Auditing Teams if required to do so.

## 3.5 Accommodation Arrangements for the Team

3.5.1 The team will work virtually and can either work from home or from either PTHB, PCC or PAVO offices, as appropriate. Officers will be required to attend physical meetings in person as and when required by the role.

### 3.6 Liabilities, insurance, and indemnities

3.6.1 Partners shall maintain policies of insurance and indemnity as required.

**END**

## APPENDIX I - Regional Partnership Board Terms of Reference

## Appendix II - Regional Infrastructure Team Wider Roles, Posts and Funding



# POWYS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Version control

Version	Main updates	Approved
Draft 6 – Produced on 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	By S Hughes & R Jones	
Draft 7 – Produced on 29 August 2016	By S Hughes	
Draft 8 – Produced on 1 <sup>st</sup> February (Board Members amended)	By S Hughes	
Draft 9 – Produced 30 <sup>th</sup> June post RPB meeting	By S Davies	Due for Approval 7 <sup>th</sup> August
Version 10 – Produced 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept post RPB meeting (Aug 2017)	By S Davies	Approved in August 2017
Version 11 – Updated March 2018		
Version 12 – Updated January 2019		
Version 13 – Drafted -Oct 2021 for consideration by RPB	By J Wellard	<b><i>Approved by RPB Members on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021</i></b>

### POWYS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD (Powys RPB) TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Regional Boards are a legislative requirement under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (Part 9) and the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015. Amendments to Part 9 of the Act were made by Welsh Government in January 2020 which sought to strengthen elements of the partnership arrangements.
- 1.2 The regulations set out by Welsh Government establishes the main requirements, purpose, and responsibilities of the Regional Partnership Board, k o hereafter as the Board .
- 1.4 These Terms of Reference build upon the guidance provided by Welsh Government and sets out specific local detail for the Powys Regional Partnership Board. They will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain fit for purpose. If in the event any serious concerns are raised in the management and operation of the Board; or further amendments are made to the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, they can be reviewed earlier.

## 2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The specific purpose of the Powys RPB as defined by the SSWB Act is: Respond to the population assessment in accordance with section 14 of the Act;
  - Implement the plans for Powys under section 14A of the Act;
  - Ensure sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements in accordance with the powers under section 167 of the Act;
  - Promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate;
  - Ensure that services and resources are used in the most effective and efficient way to improve outcomes for people in their region; Commit to using any resources in the most effective and efficient way, congruent of financial standing instruction and prudent approaches
  - Prepare a a ual report for Welsh Mi isters o the e te t to hi h the oard s objectives have been achieved;
  - Provide strategic leadership to ensure that information is shared and used effectively to improve the delivery of services, care and support, using technology and common systems to underpin this
- 2.2 The Board will, through its agreed work plan, prioritise specific areas. In doing this, it will recognise the priorities set out in the Act in relation to the integration of services for:
  - Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia;
  - People with learning disabilities;
  - Carers, including young carers;
  - Integrated Family Support Services;
  - Children with complex needs including:
    - Children with disabilities and/or illness
    - Children who are care experienced
    - Children who in need of care and support
    - Children who are at risk of becoming looked after
    - Children with emotional and behavioural needs

### 3 STATEMENT OF STRATEGIC INTENT

3.1 The Board will provide strategic advice and guidance on a wide range of care and service related matters. It will be supportive and assist to unblock any issues that are preventing progress on the agreed work plan and priorities and it will constructively challenge progress on specific topics and make recommendations to other partnerships/groups/forums as and when necessary.

3.2 Many statements of strategic intent (*What exactly are we trying to accomplish*) that partner organisations follow are either implicit or explicit in existing documentation and in the detail of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act. For the purposes of this Board the following statements of strategic intent are as follows:

- Create a momentum for critical improvements, by identifying key priorities for Powys citizens and concentrate efforts to ensure those are being addressed, through creating the conditions that help local system actors work together and learn together to help enable better outcomes for people.
- Increase the focus on early intervention and prevention by encouraging citizen control and ownership in health and wellbeing matters to minimise the escalation of need.
- Ensure the voice of the Citizen is not only heard but acted upon to improve services
- Utilise intelligence on existing and future needs of citizens in the planning of services throughout the spectrum of need and ensure resources are maximised through judicious engagement with other bodies undertaking similar activity.
- Ensure quality services are delivered efficiently and effectively through a skilled and motivated workforce and volunteers
- Promote the integration of care and support between Social Services and Health
- Ensure co-production and the commissioning of services with the public, private and voluntary sectors that promotes connected and seamless services working effectively together. Underpinned by research, foster innovative new practices and improvements through the encouragement of an experimental approach to both changes in management practice, processes and systems that can enact structural change; and, underpinned by evaluation, promote a culture of learning including creating the enabling conditions for an effective learning system at team/organisational levels.
- Ensure effective mechanisms are in place to bridge the gap between organisational and public communication on the planning and achievements of services; to communicate good practice nationally to aspire structural change where required, such as new, sustainable models of care and support.
- Use inclusive and consistent language that is understandable to all partners, avoiding abbreviations as much as possible, and improving clarity and understanding as part of any communication and engagement work under the Regional Partnership Board.

3.3 These have been captured in development of a shared Health and Care Strategy. A Health Care Strategy that sets the strategic direction to 2027 in the shape of four key priorities – Focus on Wellbeing; Early Help and Support, the Big Four; and Joined-Up, supported by four key enablers: Workforce; Innovative Environments; Digital First; and Transforming in Partnership. These priorities are underpinned by the following principles: Do What Matters; Do What Works; Focus on greatest Need; Offer Fair access to all; Be Prudent; and Focus on people's strengths.

## 4 DELEGATED POWERS AND AUTHORITY

- 4.1 The Regional Partnership Board is authorised by the Powys Teaching Health Board and Powys County Council to ensure delivery of the requirements of Part 9 of the Act.
- 4.2 The Regional Partnership Board has authority to establish short life working groups which are time limited to focus on a specific matters of advice or assurance as determined by the Partnership Board.
- 4.3 All Members of the Board have delegated power on issues of operational matters that require urgent attention.
- 4.4 In unusual or extenuating circumstances, where decisions are required outside of formal meetings and agreed governance arrangements, interim governance arrangements can be enacted to allow decisions to be made – **Appendix A**. Where any decisions are made under the interim governance arrangements, the Chair (and/or Vice Chair(s)) will advise Board members as soon as possible thereafter regarding the details and reasons for decisions that have been made outside of formal governance arrangements. Retrospective endorsement by the Board will then be sought. There would be an expectation that full board governance arrangements are returned to as soon as possible.
- 4.5 When a full member is unable to attend, a nominated representative can take on the role of a full member including delegated decision-making responsibility. Nominated representatives must declare their nomination at the beginning of each meeting. They will be assumed to be representing the identified Board member and will take responsibility for inputting and feeding back to their sovereign organisation.
- 4.6 Presenters may participate in discussions only on their particular item. Only full members of the Board may agree recommendations.

## 5 STAKEHOLDER VOICES

- 5.1 Regional Partnership Boards are asked to have regard to the voices of their various stakeholders and to have in place arrangements to receive feedback and to respond appropriately.
- 5.2 Regular communication to the public and directly from the public will be seen as key to the work of the Board and the need for broadening ownership and accountability. A communications plan will support the work of the board and drive forward this work.

## 6 MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 The Regional Partnership Board will have a core membership and may co-opt other individuals onto the group for specific business reasons for an agreed length of time. New members may be recommended and considered through a nominated process which shall be discussed at a Board meeting with all members. The membership is provided in more detail in Appendix B, and will include *as a minimum* the following:

Individual Agency Governance Representatives	Elected member Adult Social Care (Powys County Council)
	Elected member Children Social Care (Powys County Council)
	Board representative Powys Teaching Health Board
Strategic – Health	Powys Teaching Health Board Strategic rep
	Powys Teaching Health Board Strategic rep
Strategic - Social Services	Social Services Department under section 144 of the Act in respect of Powys County Council, or their nominated representatives
	Social Services Strategic Rep
Strategic Links	Public Health
	Powys County Council Head of Housing
	Registered Social Landlord
	Education
	Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST)
Third Sector	Overarching Voluntary sector body - PAVO
	Voluntary sector body (national perspective)
Care provider	one person who represents the interests of care providers
Citizens	person to represent people with needs for care and support
	person to represent carers
	Citizen Rep
	Citizen Rep

- 6.2 An annual general meeting will be convened annually in May during which a Chair and two Vice Chairs will be selected from amongst the RPB membership. The Chair can be nominated for one successive year up to a maximum of two years, after which a new RPB Chair must be nominated.
- 6.3 A new Chair or Vice Chair(s) may be recommended and considered through a nomination process which shall be discussed at a Board meeting with members. An outlined nomination process is included in **Appendix C**.
- 6.4 Regional Board members are members on the basis of their roles within the organisation or community. The citizens on the Board representing the interests of a particular community of interest will serve for a three-year term with the option to extend further (with the Chairs agreement) following a short rest period.
- 6.5 Every person becoming a Regional Partnership Board member will be required to sign a declaration of acceptance and of willingness to conduct themselves in a manner that is befitting of public office.

## **7 REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES**

7.1 The Board members responsibilities include:

- Agree the governance of the Board
- Set priorities for a programme of work in relation to requirements of the Act
- Creating an environment in which the work programme can be openly discussed and thrive
- Be the conduit of which views are collected and disseminated to and from the Board for their particular community of interest
- Endorse, advise, support and challenge project sponsors and programme managers
- Approving the progress of the programme against the strategic objectives and agreeing corrective action where needed
- Discuss and agree any potential risks; issues and opportunities
- Providing visible leadership and commitment to the programme at communication events
- Making recommendations to other partnerships/fora
- Report on Achievement, Issues and Actions (AIA) quarterly to relevant strategic groups/bodies
- Ensure that the programme benefits, outcomes and outputs are secured.
- Approve supporting communications plan to ensure information on the progress of the Board widely available across the organisation, to patients/service users, the public and other external organisations.
- Celebrate success.

## **8 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST/DISCLOSURES**

8.1 Members of the Board are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. They must refrain from actions that are likely to create any real or perceived conflict of interest, save those that are inherent in the institutional interests of the organisations that members represent.

8.2 Conflicts of interest may arise where a member of the Board has:

- a personal or financial interest in the matter being considered; or
- Where contracts are discussed, a close connection that may affect impartiality.

8.3 A member of the Board that has such an interest in a matter being considered must disclose the nature of the interest at the meeting, prior to discussions taking place and they must decide if they:

- remain in the meeting and contribute to the discussion;
- remain in the meeting, but asked wish to refrain from participating in the discussion, voting and attempting to influence any vote; or



- leave the meeting for the duration of the item under consideration.

## **9 CEASING TO BE A REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEMBER**

9.1 A Regional Board member's term of office will be considered for termination if:

- They resign from office by notice to the Board
- Changes their role within their organisation
- They have, without the consent of the Regional Board, failed to attend Regional Board meetings for a continuous period of 3 meetings
- The member has made a serious breach of the conduct/standards of behaviour agreed to by the Board. In these instances the Chair, Vice Chair and one other member shall be asked to deliberate and make the decision.

## **10 MANAGEMENT OF MEETINGS**

### **10.1 Decision Making –**

Members have the right to participate fully in discussions. The Board can make decisions and recommendations within the authority of its members. Any decisions or recommendations will be by consensus. In the unlikely circumstances where consensus cannot be reached the meeting will be adjourned and reconvened within a three week period, or as soon as reasonably practical. This will allow further discussions to take place.

The meeting will be regarded as quorate when there is a representative from four of the groups highlighted in section 6. On the rare occasion the meeting is not quorate, discussions and/or recommendations may still be made as members are expected to send a representative.

### **10.2 Frequency**

Meetings will be held bi-monthly.

The Secretariat will meet at intervening periods between the Regional Partnership Board meetings, in part to ensure that any required decisions and / or actions required at short notice can be undertaken and reported back to Board members.

### **10.3 Minutes**

Minute taking duties will be performed by the RPB Administration Officer of the RPB Team and overseen by the RPB Co-ordinator. Minutes will be taken of the discussions, agreements and actions and a record kept of those present and in attendance.

Minutes of meetings shall be made available electronically to all members and presented and agreed at the next available meeting.

Minutes will also be made available to the leads of sub groups made available bilingually on the RPB Website.

#### **10.4 Agenda Items**

Agenda items should normally be submitted to the RPB Co-ordinator at least one calendar month before each Partnership Board meeting.

Papers will be distributed a minimum of 5 working days before each meeting. Urgent agenda items may be brought up on the day with the agreement of the chair

#### **10.5 Reports/Presentations to Board**

The reports to Board will be in a standardised format and include an RPB Front Cover Sheet summarising main points as follows:

- Be clear what is required of the Board
- illustrate the specific reference point referenced to the Boards responsibilities
- highlight any risk / escalation of concern
- summarise the critical points for discussion and agreement
- Clearly identify any intended benefits
- Be explicit in the financial implications
- Make clear recommendations

#### **10.6 Venue**

Meetings will be convened virtually unless there is a specific business need to meet in person.

#### **10.7 Key aspects and specific Responsibilities of the Chair**

**Key aspects of the Chair role include:**

- focusing at a strategic level on the key outcomes we seek to deliver as a partnership
- building consensus in partnership working with collective responsibility and accountability
- chairing and facilitating discussions, formal and informal, incorporating a range of views on matters in drawing together a way forward
- enabling a culture of teamworking

**Specific responsibilities of the role include the following:**

- to chair meetings of the Regional Board
- set the agenda for meetings
- to provide a direct link between the Regional Partnership Board and the Public Service Board
- Be responsible for all feedback to Welsh Government

## **10.8 Core Regional Partnership Board Team (RPB Team)**

The Social Services and Wellbeing Act states that partners should ensure sufficient resources for the partnership arrangements in accordance with the powers under section 167 of the Act.

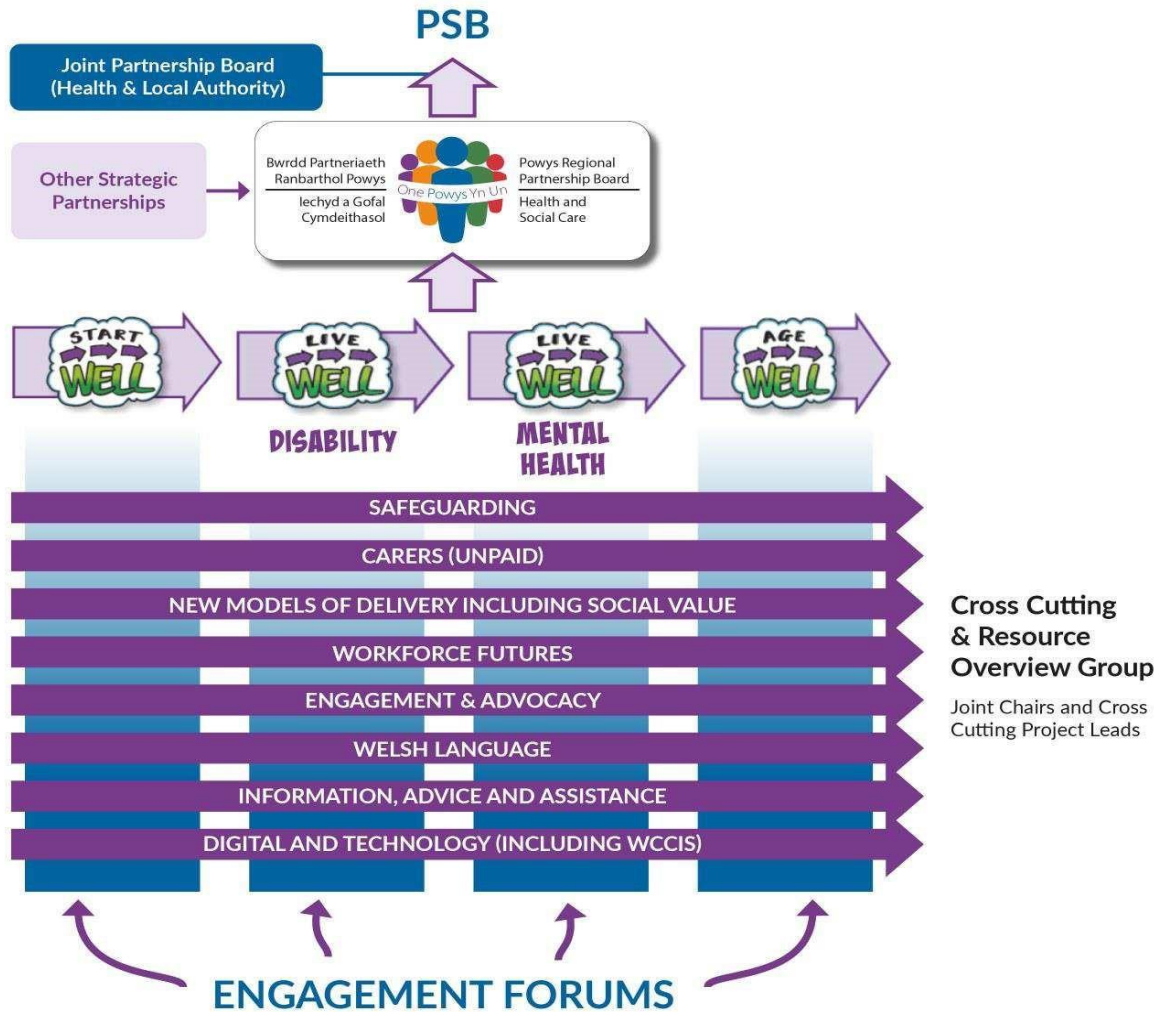
Under a Section 33 arrangement the RPB Team, acting in accordance with these terms of reference, will support with the coordination and delivering of the Regional Partnership Boards aims and objectives in line with the Health and Care Strategy. The make-up of the core RPB Team, who will be hosted by Powys County Council, is provided in **Appendix D**

## **11 RELATIONSHIPS TO OTHER BOARDS / COMMITTEES**

The diagram below depicts the current partnership arrangements to effectively manage the Boards business and ensure mechanisms are in place for strategic collaboration with other Boards.

The Board shall respect the mandates of any other Boards and Committees, and shall ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place to receive and share reports and advice on interrelated matters

It should be noted that partnerships and their interconnection and compliance with the Act is an ongoing piece of work and therefore the diagram below may be subject to further amendments to ensure it remains fit for purpose and compliant:



**The above structure will be supported by the following partnership arrangements:**

- 11.1 The Regional Partnership Board will have a strategic focus. It will not receive regular/routine update reports on integration projects as these will be managed through the partnership groups supporting the RPB. However, it will receive Reports where there are clear recommendations being made on integration projects and where professionals need specific guidance/authorisation or where issues and risks require escalation to board level.
- 11.2 The RPB Executive Steering Group, made up of the chair and co-vice chairs of the RPB, and Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Partnership Groups, led by the RPB Co-Ordinator, will meet on a monthly basis to lead and drive the work of the RPB between meetings.
- 11.3 The RPB Co-Ordinator, reporting to and guided by the Cross Cutting and Resource Overview Group, would be responsible for managing the grants allocated to the RPB reporting to and taking guidance from the key budget holder and agreeing proposals with the RPB.
- 11.4 Under the RPB there will be a series of Partnership Groups that will be responsible for delivery of agreed aspects of the Health and Care Strategy and Area Plan and addressing the RPB

priorities. These groups will report on progress to the RPB on a regular basis including raising any areas of success to celebrate or escalating any issues of risk or concern for the RPB.

- 11.5 Each Partnership group would have a Chair and Co-Chair and they will have clear responsibility & accountability for driving on the outcomes within the agreed parameters of work. Each Chair and Co-Chair will prepare a bi-annual report in September and February of every year (to feed into the RPB Annual Report). Additional reports will be required to demonstrate progress against identified RPB priorities, 3 reports a year specifically on Carers and Early Help and Prevention.
- 11.6 Each Partnership group will have a clear delivery plan which addresses the RPB priorities. However these groups may also provide a multi-agency planning and delivery forum for other related issues which may not necessarily be RPB priorities but are still of relevance. While the Partnership groups can consider additional areas of work, the Chair/Co-Chair must ensure that 80% of the agenda is consistently devoted to the agreed areas of work of the RPB
- 11.7 Each Partnership group will have a designated lead officer to support the Chair in leading the group and providing efficient administration of the group both in and between meetings.
- 11.8 The Partnership Groups will meet on at least a quarterly basis and may establish further subgroups for expediency for example autism group, care homes group. However, the Chair and Co-chair is ultimately responsible for progress and reporting on that progress.
- 11.9 Each Partnership group will ensure balanced representation from the public, voluntary and private sector. It is considered good practice to have independent citizens also represented on the groups or at least clear mechanisms in place to support citizen engagement.
- 11.10 The Board will receive **at least** one report per year on the cross-cutting developments/themes of the Board however additional reports and/or information may be requested by the Board as and when necessary.

## **12 INFORMATION SHARING**

- 12.1 Information obtained during the business of the Board must only be used for the purpose it is intended. Particular sensitivity should be applied when considering financial, activity and performance data associated with individual services. The main purpose of sharing such information will be to inform new service models and innovative approaches to integration, such information should not be used for other purposes.
- 12.2 Members are expected to protect and maintain as confidential any privileged or sensitive information divulged during the work of the Board. Where items are deemed to be privileged or particularly sensitive in nature, these should be identified and agreed by the Chair. Such items should not be disclosed until such time as it has been agreed that this information can be released.

## **13 ANNUAL REVIEW PROCESS/MEASURING SUCCESS**

- 13.1 The Board shall undertake a self-assessment of its effectiveness on an annual basis. This may be facilitated by an independent advisor if the Chair of the Board considers this appropriate or necessary.
- 13.2 Measures of Success will be determined on how effective it has been on delivering on its statement of strategic intent
- 13.3 The Board will produce an annual report to Welsh Government on its progress.

## 14 COMPLAINTS

- 14.1 All Board members are to conduct themselves in a manner that respects the views and opinions of others. In the rare case where a Board Member feels the need to make a complaint, this complain must be listened to. Views, wishes and feelings must be heard; and concerns should be resolved quickly and effectively

## 15 EXPENSES

- 15.1 The Powys Regional Partnership Board recognises the contribution that the independent citizens make to the development of the Board. It does not wish to see the citizen financially disadvantaged and will aim to ensure that a contribution is made to out of pocket expenses. The only expenses allowable are to those individual members of the board who do not directly represent an organisation at the Board. The following expenses are allowable:

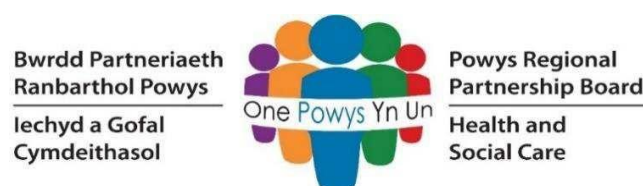
- Mileage at £0.45p per mile
- Expenses for providing care if the individual needs to pay over and above what is normally paid to attend a meeting.
- Parking fees
- Loss of earnings as a result of attending Board Meetings. In such cases where loss of earnings will occur, citizens are entitled to receive an hourly rate which is in line with the local authority's agreed Living Wage. To access this funding there will be a requirement to demonstrate the loss of earnings.

- 15.2 All expenses claims must be submitted to the Secretariat detailing the exact nature of the expense and shall be received no later than one month after the Board meeting. And will be paid within one month of submission

## 16 SAFEGUARDING

- 16.1 Safeguarding remains essential as part of the Board's responsibilities to citizens. The core safeguarding work will be undertaken by the Regional Safeguarding Boards.

## Appendix A – Powys RPB Interim Governance Arrangements



## **Powys Regional Partnership Board - Interim Governance Arrangements**

### **Background**

Regional Boards are a legislative requirement under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (Part 9) and the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015. Amendments to Part 9 of the Act were made by WG in January 2020 which sought to strengthen elements of the partnership arrangements.

The regulations set out by Welsh Government establish the main requirements, purpose, and responsibilities of the Regional Partnership Board, known hereafter as the Board. The 'PB Terms of Reference' builds upon the guidance provided by Welsh Government and sets out the specific local governance arrangements for Powys Regional Partnership Board.

The following interim arrangements have been developed to offer a framework for decision making to allow key decisions to be made in the unlikely event that the RPB is unable to operate under these current arrangements, due to unusual or extenuating circumstances.

This document should be considered alongside the Board's or the Terms of Reference to offer context to the broader remit of the RPBs and how any interim changes to decision making differs from these.

### **Purpose**

These interim governance arrangements are developed in the context of the current COVID-19 Pandemic - the key driver for the development of these interim arrangements comes in recognition of the impact of COVID-19 on the RPBs ability to operate normal governance arrangements during an emergency response to the pandemic. In light of this the following framework offers an alternative business and decisions making process on an interim basis to ensure Partners are kept informed about emerging priorities and that there is governance oversight of any decisions being made.

These arrangements will need to be regularly reviewed to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

### **Principles**

The following principles will be adhered to in the event of enacting these interim arrangements:

- RPB Partners will continue to operate within the spirit of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act and Partnership working, albeit within extenuating circumstances, and maximise opportunities to work in partnership in response to the current circumstances.
- All decisions made under the interim arrangements will be made in the spirit of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act and recognition of the impact on Partners.
- Communication with partners will be prioritised as much as possible - any decisions made will be communicated to RPB Members as soon as practicable possible and endorsement sought once normal governance is returned
- Interim arrangements will only be operated for as long as it is strictly necessary to do so and a return to full RPB governance arrangements will be realised as soon as possible.

## **Enacting interim arrangements**

In unusual or extenuating circumstances, where decisions are required outside of formal meetings and agreed governance arrangements, interim governance arrangements can be enacted to allow decisions to be made. It is proposed that the current governance arrangements, including prearranged meetings, would be suspended until further notice

This decision can be made by a tri-party agreement – see below

## **Tri-Party Decision Making Process**

Where timely decisions are required outside of formal meetings and agreed governed arrangements, these will be made by a tri-party agreement of the Chair and Vice Chairs of Powys RPB as agreed by the current Terms of Reference Membership, ensuring that this make-up of Chair / Vice Chairs represents Health, Social Care and Third Sector

Where any decisions are made under the interim governance arrangements, the Chair (and Vice Chairs) will advise Board members as soon as possible thereafter regarding the details and reasons for decisions that have been made outside of formal governance arrangements and retrospective endorsement by the Board will then be sought.

## **RPB Resources**

Any decisions regarding changes to the current RPB investment and spend plans of RPB resources can be considered by the tri-party arrangement of the Chair and Vice Chairs of Powys RPB under these interim arrangements.

All decisions will remain in line with Welsh Government Guidance, expectations, and any flexibilities agreed nationally

## **Revenue**

- The RPB Team will work with Project Leads to identify those projects that are not able to maintain service delivery as a result of any extenuating circumstance. ICF Project leads may be requested to release project funds to support emergency activity.
- Where projects identify realignment to better support emergency activity - then this will be supported but must be communicated to the RPB Team so a log of project changes can be made and the change in outcomes to be reported in line with ICF monitoring arrangements.
- Each project and programme will operate within the limit of its cash allocation and where additional resources are required then this request to be forwarded to the RPB Team for consideration in line with the decision-making process.
- Thematic Chairs (for Start Well, Live Well and Age Well Partnerships), will be involved with any changes / requirements to projects assigned to their partnership.
- The RPB Team to provide direct communication with ICF project leads disseminating key messages and developments emerging from key Response Command groups (e.g. Silver/Gold.)



- All financial records and changes will be maintained by both Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) (accountable body) and Powys County Council (PCC) where there is a devolution of resource and provided on a monthly and quarterly basis.
- **Managing ICF Revenue slippage:**
  - Project Lead – delegated authority to 10% of project allocation. Variations must be tracked and annual budget not to be exceeded without agreement.
  - Where there is a desire to redistribute funding across a number of approved projects e.g Partners wish to re-profile their budget across their suite of approved projects there is delegated authority up to 25% of their allocation.

### **Capital**

- The RPB Team will work with Capital Leads to identify those projects that will be unable to deliver in the time scales.
- Capital expenditure for emergency activity will be explored and in line with any updated guidance from WG.

In all cases, ongoing monitoring is required at the local / project level to ensure that all resources utilised can be tracked and comply with good governance at all times. Where any flexibilities are introduced in reporting during these interim arrangements, normal monitoring and reporting will resume as soon as possible and it is important that clear records, audit trails and accountability are retained locally.

### **Communication**

Routine monthly updates will be produced for RPB members which will include a log of key decisions made under the tri-party agreement and communicated via an e-Bulletin.

### **Regional Partnership Board Team**

The Regional Partnership Team and other partnership funded positions may be diverted away from non-urgent business but will keep an overview of Welsh Government requirements and project queries to ensure the RPB does not default; that RPB Resourcing remains in line with guidance; that decisions are able to take place within the framework of these interim arrangements; and that these are logged and communicated to RPB Members as stated above .



By virtue of paragraph(s) 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Cabinet / Delegated				
Decision Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Lead	Decision Maker
08/03/22	North Powys Project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
08/03/22	Corporate Safeguarding Update	Councillor Rachel Powell	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
08/03/22	North Powys Project Memorandum of Understanding	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Alison Bulman	Cabinet
08/03/22	Llanbedr CP School Objection report	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22	Sennybridge capital project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22	Brecon capital project Strategic Outline Case	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet
08/03/22	STAR Survey	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
08/03/22	HRA Business Plan	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
08/03/22	Housing Support Programme Strategy	Councillor Myfanwy Catherine Alexander	Nina Davies	Cabinet
11/03/22	Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors, Cradoc CP School Objection report	Councillor Phyl Davies	Emma Palmer	Cabinet

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