

Public Service Board

Meeting Venue
By Teams

Meeting Date
Wednesday, 13 March 2024

Meeting Time
2.00 pm

For further information please contact

steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk



County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG
07/03/2024

AGENDA

1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES	2.00 PM
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To welcome attendees and receive any apologies.

Apologies received from:

2.	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	2.05 PM
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To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held 15th December 2023 and consider any matters arising.
(Pages 3 - 6)

STANDING ITEMS

3.	WORKSTREAM UPDATES AND ACTION PLANS	
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3.1.	Undertaking A Whole System Approach to Healthy Weight	2.10 PM
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Mererid Bowley/Alison Merry, PTHB
(Pages 7 - 12)

3.2.	Evidence and Insight	2.20 PM
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Catherine James, PCC
(Pages 13 - 18)

3.3.	Responding to the Climate Emergency	2.30 PM
Liz Hutchins, BBNPA (Pages 19 - 24)		

OTHER ITEMS

4.	SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT	2.40 PM
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Alison Perry, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Paul Clarke, Dyfed Powys Police.

5.	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	
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Thursday 4th July 2024, 2 - 4 pm
Thursday 26th September 2024, 2 – 4 pm
Wednesday 11th December 2024, 10 – 12.30 pm

CLOSED SESSION

6.	RPB/PSB ASSET WORKSHOP	
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Joe Wellard, PCC

7.	PARTNER CONVERSATION	
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All

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD HELD AT BY TEAMS
ON FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2023**

PRESENT

County Councillor J Gibson-Watt (Chair)
 Gavin Bown (Natural Resources Wales)
 Carl Cooper (Chair Powys Teaching Health Board)
 Iwan Cray (Deputy Chief Fire Officer Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
 Neil Evans (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
 Liz Hutchins (Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority)
 Jenny McConnel (Change Analyst at the Office of the Future Generations
 Commissioner for Wales)
 Alison Merry (Deputy Director of Public Health)
 Rhys Morris (Chief Regional Officer for North Mid and West Wales Welsh
 Government)
 Emma Palmer (Director of Corporate Services Powys County Council)
 Anna Prothero (Powys Teaching Health Board)
 Diane Reynolds (Interim Director Economy and Communities Powys County Council)
 Clair Swales (Chief Executive PAVO)
 County Councillor Gwynfor Thomas (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority)
 Hayley Thomas (Chief Executive Powys Teaching Health Board)

Supporting:

Steve Boyd (PCC)
 Bets Ingram (PCC)
 Catherine James (PCC)
 James Langridge-Thomas (PCC)
 Felicity Llewelyn (PCC)
 Lynwen Davies (PCC Translator)

1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
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Apologies for absence were received from Mererid Bowley, Powys Teaching Health Board, Duncan Hamer Welsh Government, Christine Harley HM Prisons and Probation Service, Alison Perry, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Gillian Perry Natural Resources Wales.

2.	WORKSTREAM UPDATES AND ACTION PLANS
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Undertaking A Whole System Approach To Healthy Weight

Alison Merry and Anna Prothero gave an update. Stakeholder engagement events on breast feeding and introduction to solid food and cooking skills and affordability of healthy food had been held in November and December. There were a series of suggested actions from each workshop which would help inform the strategic delivery plan. The steering group that would oversee the implementation of the strategic delivery plan had been established.

Emma Palmer noted that as a large employer the County Council could make changes to make breast feeding easier for its employees will little expense. The council would also welcome a discussion on planning approval for fast food outlets.

Evidence And Insight

Catherine James reported that the RAG status for the Step was green. The following activity had been undertaken in the quarter:

- The Memorandum of Understanding had been drafted and agreed with information compliance leads to facilitate the sharing of information.
- The first PSB Scrutiny Committee had been held on 5 December.
- The Step lead attended Powys Food Partnership Strategy event to understand opportunities to align the work of the PSB to this work, and identify any opportunities for collaboration from an engagement perspective.
- A shared digital file and calendar solution had been devised but not all Partners are able to access. This had been escalated to ICT.
- As part of a workshop planning the work of “Responding to the Climate Emergency” workstream, the step supported this workstream with stakeholder analysis ahead of further engagement planning Engagement.

The sharing of information was welcomed and there was agreement that the partners should explore the possibility of sharing buildings. It was agreed to add this to the agenda for the PSB Chief Executives meeting on 15 January.

2.3. Responding To The Climate Emergency

Liz Hutchins reported that good progress has been made in the last quarter. The funding agreement for SPF funding had been finalised and two members of staff recruited – a Climate Policy Officer and Climate Co-ordinator would be starting work in February. A climate workshop had been held in November and there had been good levels of engagement.

Details of what each of the partners were doing in respect of decarbonisation, public engagement and carbon literacy in their own services had been circulated with the papers. Carbon literacy was highlighted as an issue to ensure that it informed all levels of decision making.

Diane Reynolds reported that the Council was working with a stakeholder engagement group and Liz Hutchins confirmed that she would look at how that group could be brought on board along with County Councillors and Town and Community Councils.

Hayley Thomas asked if the top 2 or 3 high impact actions that partners should concentrate on could be identified. Liz Hutchins advised that the high impact actions would be identified but that they needed to be driven by the 5 stepped evidence based strategic approach.

Rhys Morris the Chief Regional Officer for North Mid and West Wales for Welsh Government asked about the future energy infrastructure needs for the grid. Liz Hutchins confirmed that these issues were being raised with the energy companies and community energy groups.

Emma Palmer agreed on the need for high impact actions. She also noted that simple behavioural changes could have an impact and suggested that there be comms on “Think local act personal”. Partners needed to understand the costs and where to invest. Partners also needed to understand the skills gap, how to

link with the Regional Skills Partnership and how that influences the curriculum. Liz Hutchins would discuss with Diane Reynolds how to link with the RSP and also work going on in the Mid Wales Growth Deal.

Liz Hutchins agreed that behavioural change would be really important and noted that Welsh Government had launched a behaviour change initiative with some key messages. She also confirmed that she would be happy to support partner organisations in sense checking their costed decarbonisation action plans.

3. MWWFRS COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2040

Iwan Cray gave a presentation on Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2040. The plan was intended to redesign the service to make it sustainable in the long term. The CRMP 2040 focused on three interconnected themes, Prevention and Protection, Response, and Corporate.

Prevention and Protection - Keeping communities safe by preventing fires and other emergencies from happening through understanding of risk.

Response - Ensuring sustainable response arrangements in the right place, with the right people, using the right resources.

Corporate – Delivering an effective and efficient Service that considers the needs of staff, communities, and environment.

The consultation would run to 15 January and the results reported back to the Fire Authority.

4. PRESENTATION ON CLIMATE BY DIANE REYNOLDS, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Diane Reynolds gave a presentation on the council's Climate and Nature plan. The plan had eight priorities:

1. Sustainable Powys
2. Place Planning across Powys
3. Emissions reduction
4. Climate Risk and Adaptation
5. Asset Management
6. Powys-wide and cross border collaboration
7. Leadership on Climate Change
8. Resourcing Climate Transition

Prof. Alan Netherwood had been commissioned to provide assurance that the Council was focused on the right areas.

The Council had also examined its Carbon accounts to show which areas to focus on and found that by far the largest carbon emissions come from the supply chain.

The Council's Net Zero 2030 strategy had a number of key workstream areas each with a costed action plan.

In addition to the direct control each of the partner organisations had over their own direct operations, each had a role in shaping places and working in partnership could bring other organisations and people together.

Over £2m had been secured from the Shared Prosperity Fund in the last year to support climate projects in the county.

5. CYMRU CAN

Jenny McConnel, Change Analyst at the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales on the new Cymru Can strategy for 2023-2030. The strategy focuses on five missions: Implementation and Impact, Climate and Nature, Health and Well-being, Culture and Welsh Language, and A Well-being Economy. Alongside the five missions, two areas of focus had been identified: Food, and AI and Digital.

The Cymru Can approach was designed to ensure the OFG focuses its work and resources where they can be most effective. More detailed workplans were being worked on and would be shared when available.

6. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 4th October 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

Catherine James advised that the PSB Scrutiny Committee had met on 5th December. Jennifer Owen Adams had been appointed by Powys Teaching Health Board, Councillor David Bryan had been appointed by Mid and West Wales Fire Authority and Peter Swanson by PAVO. Jennifer Owen Adams had been appointed Chair of the Committee and Councillor Gareth E Jones Vice Chair.

7. DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS

To be confirmed.

County Councillor J Gibson-Watt (Chair)

WHOLE SYSTEM APPROACH TO HEALTHY WEIGHT IN POWYS - HIGH LEVEL STRATEGIC PLAN

STEP 1: SET UP AND BUY IN

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
1	Establishing senior level support and governance structures					
1.1	Engage with PSB, RPB and sub-groups	Powys Public Health Team (PPHT)	Green	Apr-22	Ongoing	Presented Whole System Approach to Health Weight (WSA) work to PSB, Start Well and Live Well groups. WSA to Healthy Weight has become a PSB priority area. Workstream will report to PSB on a quarterly basis.
1.2	Engage with senior level stakeholders within PCC, PAVO and PTHB.	PPHT	Green	Apr-22	Ongoing	WSA approach to key individuals. Individuals invited to initial WSA engagement events held
1.3	Establish local governance structures.	PPHT	Blue	Dec-23	Oct-23	The WSA workstream will report to the PSB on a quarterly basis. The WSA workstream is built into PTHB's IMTP and progress will be reported on quarterly
1.4	Attend national WSA System Lead meetings and workshops organised by Public Health Wales (PHW). Continue to report into national structure and provide local updates.	PPHT	Green	Apr-22	Ongoing	Powys Public Health Team representative attends national meeting every 2 months. Progress and shared learning are discussed. Reporting to Public Health Wales and Welsh Government is submitted quarterly (qualitative

STEP 2: DEFINING AND MAPPING THE SYSTEM

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
2	Understanding local system, identifying which partnerships and organisations to engage with					

2.1	Conduct mapping exercise to identify key individuals and organisations, strategic groups, priorities and key strategic plans in Powys	PPHT		Jul-22	Sep-22	Mapping exercise conducted. Maps produced using KUMU software and presented at WSA engagement events in October 2022 for stakeholders to review. Following comments
2.2	Based on mapping, identify strengths and gaps in current system including existing and potential links to obesity prevention. This should include potential levers and opportunities as	PPHT		Oct-22	Feb-23	Maps were presented at our engagement event in October 2022 to support the discussions at the engagement events. Stakeholders were able to examine the maps and identify potential areas of focus for the WSA in Powys

STEP 3: Creating a System Change Narrative

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
3	Develop narrative of why obesity matters and how obesity is currently being addressed locally					
3.1	Develop a narrative of the local healthy weight system	PPHT		Jul-22	Sep-22	Local and national evidence has been collated and reviewed to inform an in-depth narrative of the current picture of overweight and obesity in Powys. The narrative was taken to our

STEP 4: SYSTEM ENGAGEMENT

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
4	Engaging with key stakeholders, collectively identify priority areas					
4.1	Based on mapping exercise engage with key stakeholders to gain their support for local systems approach.	PPHT		Apr-22	Sep-22	Stakeholders identified via the mapping process were invited to attend to half day stakeholder engagement events. Collectively they represented a range of organisations from

4.2	Organise workshop(s) in Powys to bring key stakeholders together to develop a shared understanding of task and agree initial priorities for action	PPHT		Apr-22	Sep-22	Two half day workshops, chaired by Kirsty Williams (Vice Chair of PTHB) were held in October 2022 and January 2023. Stakeholders from a range of organisations across Powys attended the events. Based on the information presented at the first event, the stakeholders present were able to identify five potential areas of focus for the WSA workstream. The local public health team produced evidence
4.3	Develop a Padlet Board to keep stakeholders updated with progress	PPHT		Apr-22	Sep-22	A padlet board has been created and has been shared with delegates who attended the stakeholder engagement events.

STEP 5: PRIORITIES AND GOALS

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
5	Agree priority area and conduct detailed mapping					
5.1	Agree priority area.	PPHT		Oct-22	Mar-23	Based on engagement with stakeholders, and existing evidence and research, the area of focus for the WSA to Healthy Weight in Powys work has been confirmed as 'Children, Families
5.2	Identify the key partnerships, organisations and plans that are part of the chosen area.	PPHT		Mar-23	May-23	area of 'Children, Families and Access to Healthy Food'. Key organisations, individuals, activities, projects and plans have been identified and
5.3	Undertake more detailed systems and asset mapping in line with priority areas.	PPHT		Mar-23	May-23	Mapping has enabled the team to identify key stakeholders to invite to engagement events in May 2023.

STEP 6: DETAILED NETWORK ANALYSIS

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
6	Understanding connections, strengths and gaps in identified					

6.1	Bring identified stakeholders together to review mapping	PPHT		Mar-23	May-23	Two planning sessions were held on different days and at different locations in May 2023. Stakeholders reviewed the information collated to date and began to identify areas of focus within the area of children, families and access to healthy food. Key areas identified included cooking skills, introduction to solids,
6.2	Identify connections, assets, gaps in the sub-system	PPHT		May-23	Sep-23	Based on the areas identified at the planning sessions, the local public health team have produced evidence briefings on the four focus areas to identify connections, assets, gaps and
6.3	Produce systems map to detail connections in sub-system	PPHT		Oct-22	Sep-23	A systems map for Children, Families and Access to Healthy Food has been produced following the planning sessions in May. Further maps for infant feeding, breastfeeding, affordability of
STEP 7: ACTION PLANNING						
Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
7	Develop shared action plan					
7.1	Develop shared action plan to mobilise work in relation to identified priority area.	PPHT		Sep-23	Nov-23	A Strategic Delivery Plan in place informed by stakeholder workshops in Nov and Dec 2023. SDP discussed at Steering Group in Jan 2024, plan updated to reflect discussions at SG. SG will maintain oversight of Strategic Delivery Plan and its implementation. and will be taken to
7.2	Establish a multi-agency Strategic Steering Group to oversee WSA in	PPHT		Aug-23	Oct-23	Steering Group established to oversee development and delivery of the Strategic
7.3 (new)	Establish working groups for each area of focus	PPHT		Mar-24	Jun-24	Work has commenced to establish working groups for for each area of focus (breastfeeding, intro to solid foods (weaning), cooking skills, affordability of healthy food), recognising fit with existing groups where appropriate (eg Healthy Start Task & Finish Group which forms

7.4 (new)	Working groups to develop detailed action plans	PPHT		Mar-24	Jun-24	Work to develop detailed action plans for each area of focus has started with a view to each of the areas (breastfeeding, introduction to solids (weaning), cooking skills, and affordability of healthy food (including Healthy Start)) having their own detailed action plan to support delivery of the Strategic Delivery Plan. This will
7.5 (new)	Implementation of action plans by working groups	PPHT		Mar-24	Mar-25	Implementation will be ongoing throughout 2024-25 and progress overseen by the Strategic Group. Good progress made to date in relation to implementation of actions re Healthy Start

Step 8: MOBILISE AND MANAGE

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
8	Plan, Implement, Review					
8.1	Set up regular meetings to allow stakeholders to come together to review progress against shared action plan.	PPHT		Aug-23	Oct-23	A series of workshops have been held along with individual meetings with stakeholders. Next Strategic Meeting is scheduled for January 2024. Stakeholder engagement workshops planned for November 2023 and December 2023. These workshops will inform the development of the Strategic Delivery Plan. Task and finish groups to support actions within
8.2	Develop communications plan.	PPHT	To be completed	Oct-23	Jun-24	This will be completed following the agreement of our strategic delivery plan.

Step 9: REVIEW

Ref	Actions	Lead	Rag Rating	Plan Start	Plan Finish	Progress
9	Plan, Implement, Review					
9.1	Agree robust evaluation method	Strategic Steering Group	To be completed	Oct-23	Jun-24	
9.2	Review progress regularly	Strategic Steering Group	On-going	Sep-23	Ongoing	

9.3	Identify where change is needed and plan for next phase of action	Strategic Steering Group	On-going	Dec-24	Ongoing	
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Powys Public Services Board - Wednesday 13th March 2024

Step Update - Shaping the future by improving our understanding of what matters to the people of Powys through **Evidence and Insight**

Author: James Langridge-Thomas, Deputy Head of Transformation and Democratic Services, Powys County Council

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2. What activity has been undertaken since the last meeting of the PSB?	2
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3.2

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1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Public Service's Board with an update of activity undertaken by this step so far, an assessment of progress, future activity related to the step and highlight areas for the Board's attention. The overall RAG status of this Step at March 2024 is **ON TRACK (GREEN)**. The report identifies what has been delivered within the quarter, what is due to be delivered, whilst providing an overview of risk, assurance, and resources.

2. What activity has been undertaken since the last meeting of the PSB?

2.0 General

2.1.1. Memorandum of Understanding has been circulated and Partners are returning to show their commitment to workstream.

2.1.2. The first Scrutiny session was undertaken, including member development to ensure effective engagement with the process and an understanding of the work of the PSB. Positions within the committee have been elected too (Chair – Jennifer Owen-Adams and Vice Chair Cllr Gareth Jones).

2.1.3. Step lead attended Welsh Government/Future Generation Commission events such as the National Shared Learning Event (Wrexham) to engage with other Public Service Boards and public bodies surrounding the Well-being Plan and its associated priorities to understand if there are opportunities for collaboration and to share best practice examples.

2.1.4. Step lead has also supported Public Health Wales in developing a programme of work surrounding systems thinking to inform PSBs, which will look to be implemented nationally in 2024/25.

2.1.5. A shared digital file and calendar solution has been devised but not all Partners are able to access. This has been escalated to ICT accordingly.

2.1 Engagement

2.2.1. The joint engagement group with the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) has formalised its Terms of Reference and re-structured meetings to ensure all stakeholders from both PSB and RPB attend to achieve maximum value.

2.2.2. A revised Powys engagement plan, aligning the work of the PSB and Regional Partnership Board into a singular Powys Well-being Engagement Plan is being developed and is near finalisation.

2.2.3. A bid was submitted to Welsh Government Democratic to host a Climate Conversation as part of Welsh Climate Week, and to use this as a learning base for future deliberative engagement models. However, due to constraints within the funding conditions, this activity did not go ahead.

- 2.2.4. A joint workshop was attended to work with the RPB and wider stakeholder representatives to agree a collective definition of co-production.
- 2.2.5. Town and Community Councils have been engaged with at a strategic level in February 2024 (online event) to advise around the work of the PSB and how they can get involved to help improve well-being in Powys. This was to a range of Town and Community Council's across Powys who considered how they could get involved in this work. This has identified the need to further consider how they can support the operational delivery of the Steps.
- 2.2.6 The PSB and RPB working group have been working to shape the Sustainable Powys and Powys Together engagement activities being undertaken across the 13 localities of Powys.
- 2.2.7. Preparatory work continues to explore developing a PSB website, establishing the Partnership's identity and options are currently being appraised to consider a future path.

Data

- 2.3.1. The data officer's group have continued undertaking a gap analysis of the Well-being Information Bank and Well-being Assessment, with the intention of seeking to address these gaps a fundamental aim of their workplan.
- 2.3.2. Work has commenced to ensure that there are robust governance arrangements such as GDPR requirements and information sharing protocols that satisfies all Partners in meeting their legislative requirements. Through Information Governance leads, it has been established that a Data Protection Impact Assessment or Information Sharing Protocol is not required at this time.
- 2.3.3. In quarter three, 100% of datasets that have been updated on the Well-being Information Bank were done within 10 days (target), with around 20 data updates completed/planned during the quarter. We have published a new report of the locations of fire stations in Powys and Wales as this new dataset was made available by Welsh Government. We have other reports in development including Social housing datasets from Welsh Government, Child poverty statistics from End Child Poverty Coalition and some others in the pipeline. We have noted that there is a delay in updates of many datasets, these delays are still as a result of Covid/Census 2021 where reporting was stopped or delayed, therefore many datasets we were hoping to update during this quarter are not yet available, this includes ONS Mid-

Year Estimates by small area and single year of age, some social services benchmarking to name a few. We will hopefully see many of these datasets be made available to us in the summer 2024.

- 2.3.4 A workshop has been held (4th March) to further develop group relationships, including skills mapping and ideas generation to support the future data needs of Powys public sector. Updates from this session include the agreement to explore a data maturity assessment, to create a repository to share information and to further develop data mapping and gapping, with emphasis upon the environment theme.

3. What future activity is planned to be undertaken before the next PSB board meeting?

Specific longer-term activities are contained within the action plan; examples include:

- 3.1. Commence analysis of locality engagement findings and disseminate knowledge accordingly.
- 3.2. Holding an event surrounding Young Person's engagement (March 20th) to ensure their voice is used to inform future policy making
- 3.3. Undertake data maturity assessment as PSB partners.
- 3.4. Arrange facilitation of undertaking the Future Generation's Commissioner's Maturity Matrix as a Public Service Board.
- 3.5. Prepare the PSB's Annual Report and arrange for this be communicated with Members and wider stakeholders.
- 3.6. To further identify and bid for funding to support the delivery of this Step's activity.
- 3.7. To further develop alignment of workstream with the work of other steps, *A Whole System Approach to Healthy Weight and Responding to the Climate Emergency*.

4. What are the risks to delivery?

- 4.1. IF additional funding is not identified to deliver the work of this step, THEN this step will not be fully resourced to be able to support the aspirations of the Public Services Board

- 4.2. IF data sharing agreements agreed and implemented in a timely manner, THEN the data stream will be limited in its effectiveness to support the Public Service Board and it's understanding of the people of Powys

5. What assurance activity has been undertaken?

- 5.1. No activity has been undertaken since the previous update

6. Resources

- 6.1. This step is currently operating with no attached funding for specific activity, minus the young person's engagement event which is being jointly funded by PSB grant and Youth Services.
- 6.2. There is pending agreement from PSB surrounding the procurement of an easy read version of the well-being plan, and the distribution of the associated cost.
- 6.3. This step is currently resourced from existing people from partner organisations, who are participating in this workstream alongside their business-as-usual requirements. It is critical that as this workstream develops further funding is secured, and that people's capacity can be released to support this work.

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3.3

Powys PSB Board meeting March 2024

Responding to the Climate Emergency

5 March 2024.

Liz Hutchins, Convenor, Powys Public Services Board

Introduction

Powys Public Services Board decided to prioritise responding to the climate emergency as one of three focuses in the Well-being Plan 2023-2028.

Since then, the emergency has deepened with nearly every month breaking records of higher global temperatures, extremes in weather, or climate impacts. In Powys we have just experienced one of the wettest Februaries on record which is disrupting farming and putting more homes in jeopardy of flooding.

At the same time some big shifts are happening in the economics of renewable energy and battery and other technologies, and in public awareness and preparedness to act. This opens the possibility of a very big acceleration in the projects and ways of organising needed.

As discussed at previous PSB Board meetings, **this stage of the Powys PSB Climate Emergency work is focused on developing a strategic plan to scale and speed up climate action across Powys.** This is the work that has been funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund in a bid approved by the Board. Starting by developing a strategic plan to scale up is important because experience from around the world show that this is the approach that drives most action.

For Board discussion: The Powys PSB climate work is already starting to prove successful in galvanising a coordinated Powys response to the climate emergency. The project is facing a resource cliff-edge end the end of this calendar year. Creating multi-year resource stability for the project will enable it to have higher impact in 2024, and to realise potential for the PSB in future years.

Developing a strategic climate action plan

We have made good progress since the last PSB Board meeting and are on track with our Shared Prosperity Fund-supported project including:

- **Staffing:** Two excellent new staff members have been inducted and are helping to accelerate the work.
- **Decarbonisation:** We are in the process of procuring consultancy to support carbon footprint analysis and a fair share decarbonisation target calculation. We are using Sell2 Wales platform and following best practice procurement processes.
- **Sequestration:** We are also procuring consultancy for carbon sequestration opportunity mapping. We are working to align methodology with PSB partner approaches to nature recovery.
- **Climate adaptation:** Work has started on the climate risk assessment: we are in a phase of gathering data about climate impacts and work already underway to mitigate them. We are using the new NRW climate risk assessment tool developed for PSBs.
- **Stakeholder engagement:** We have worked with Chris Blake to refine the terms of reference of the Powys Climate Stakeholder Group and met with the group on 29 February to discuss the proposal. The PSB climate project was presented to Powys Town and Community Councils on 21 February and their feedback was sought about how they would like to be engaged.

- **Community engagement:** Informed community contributions are essential to shape the climate action plan, but there are insufficient means of having that input at the moment. We are trialling in Bannau Brycheiniog a ‘networked change’ approach to engage communities via a network of community catalysts called *Bannau Brycheiniog Race to Zero*. We are exploring whether this is a model to scale community action in Powys. We are involving groups with expertise in this field including: the Centre for Alternative Technology, Egin and PAVO Community Connectors, and are engaging with Powys Action on the Climate Emergency.
- **Funding:** We continue to comply with the Shared Prosperity Fund grant agreement.

The UN-backed **Race to Zero** framework is structuring our decarbonisation and sequestration work (as committed to in the Powys Well-being Plan), and NRW’s new **Climate Risk Assessment** framework is structuring our adaptation work.

Next steps

- **PSB member and wider stakeholder engagement:** We will refine the information we need from stakeholders in relation to decarbonisation, sequestration and adaptation and will utilise a range of methods of engaging which are likely to include 121 meetings, bespoke workshops, questionnaire(s), and taking part in events organised by PSB members and other organisations. The PSB itself holds some of the information and analysis we need and we are linking with key colleagues across a wide range of responsibilities including nature, energy and transport. As PSB members are large organisations we are grateful for introductions to relevant people and projects.
- **Community engagement:** We will coordinate a package of support that enables community catalysts to engage with their local populations in the 13 cluster settlements across Powys. From those activities we hope to develop a more comprehensive understanding of climate-related initiatives happening across Powys, and to understand the opportunities and appetite to scale up initiatives such as community renewables, community transport, behaviour change initiatives etc.
- **Feasibility studies:** The SPF grant agreement includes a requirement for up to five feasibility studies. We will develop our scoping of the barriers and opportunities that need to be tested to inform the final climate action plan.
- **Fundraising:** We will explore sources of funding to support: extending the current staffing beyond December 2024; project delivery; community-level engagement at a larger scale.

A simplified project timeline for 2024 is below.

	Q3 (Jan, Feb, Mar)	Q4 (Apr, May, Jun)	Q1 (July, Aug, Sept)	Q2 (Oct, Nov, Dec)
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house climate risk assessment started. • Commissioning instigated. • Coordination with Data and Insights. • Information management systems set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house climate risk assessment ongoing. • Ongoing consultancy for: carbon footprint assessment; carbon sequestration potential; fair share 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house climate risk assessment and action planning ongoing. • Ongoing consultancy for: carbon footprint assessment; carbon sequestration potential; fair 	Drafting a strategic Powys Climate Action Plan: decarbonisation, sequestration and adaptation.

		decarbonisation target calculation.	share decarbonisation target calculation.	
Feasibility studies	Relationship building.	Understanding the barriers and solutions that could be tested.	Feasibility studies.	Write ups.
Stakeholder and community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship building. Methodology options explored. Climate Stakeholder Group TOR refined. Climate community catalysts network established. Coordination with Data and Insights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging with stakeholders and communities to understand climate vulnerability and to shape the action plan. Support for Climate Stakeholder Group and community climate catalysts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging with stakeholders and communities to understand climate vulnerability and to shape the action plan. Support for Climate Stakeholder Group and community climate catalysts. 	Continued stakeholder and community engagement to refine action plan drafting.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing SPF compliance including first audited accounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared Prosperity. Ongoing SPF compliance. Scoping options for future fundraising. 	Fundraising bids.	Fundraising bids.
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBNPA 2 days a week since Sept. Feb: 2 new staff inducted. 	Ongoing staffing contributing skills and capacity to the project.	Ongoing staffing contributing skills and capacity to the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing staffing contributing skills and capacity to the project. Contracts due to end Dec 31 2024.

Progressing wider climate work

The 15 December Board meeting raised the following points:

Launching a public behaviour change campaign focusing on the actions individuals can take

The possibility of a Powys PSB website is being explored and this could be an opportunity to signpost residents to sources of information about individual behaviour change.

A wider pro-active public behaviour change campaign would need more resources than we have to develop and launch this year. We would welcome a Board discussion about resources to bring this work forward. See below risk.

High impact actions starting this year

A wide range of actions are needed to reach net zero and improve well-being across energy, transport, food and drink, land use, and consumption of goods.

Food and drink

The food production and consumption systems change stands out as having very strong well-being and nature co-benefits and the Public Services Board has meaningful influence on the system. PSB procurement of sustainable local food could provide certainty for regenerative agriculture to scale up in the county and can help to change behaviours through exposing people to healthy diets and stimulating positive public debate. A food systems shift is in line with the Future Generations Commissioner's Cymru Can priority, and Welsh Government policy.

There have been many public sector sustainable diets projects internationally and in Wales that Powys can learn from. We can also learn from climate communications experts about what inspires behaviour changes in diets.

This will be the focus of one of the feasibility studies funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund. First we need to identify what the Powys-specific barriers are, by working with those already engaged in sustainable food production and consumption in Powys.

Community projects and initiatives

The work we are doing to enable and support community catalysts in each community is intended to have multiple benefits. It can inspire and kick-start practical projects such as community renewables and transport, and behaviour change initiatives – some of these are starting this year. Done well it can also deepen community buy-in to solutions and build community resilience.

Net Zero and Climate Resilience skills

The future sustainable and net zero economy of Powys will require up-skilling and re-training across a wide range of jobs. We are now in contact with the Regional Skills Partnership and are exploring how the development of a strategic climate action plan can support the development of training and proficiency in Powys.

Operational climate action

At the December Board meeting members expressed an interest in support from the PSB Climate Working Group to develop costed climate action plans for their organisations' operations and services. This is beyond the scope of the Shared Prosperity Fund grant – for example to commission bespoke research. There are also support structures for PSB member organisations that we need to avoid duplicating - such as the WLGA support for local authorities.

However, the Powys PSB Climate Working Group has already started to explore where there are opportunities for further joint working. A reminder that information was gathered and circulated ahead of

the September 2023 PSB Board meeting in relation to members: decarbonisation, carbon sequestration, adaptation, public engagement and carbon literacy training.

Risks and mitigation

The Powys PSB climate work is already proving successful in galvanising Powys’ response to the climate emergency. The project is facing a resource cliff-edge end the end of this calendar year. Creating multi-year resource stability for the project will enable it to have higher impact in 2024, and to realise its potential in future years.

SPF-funded project risks and mitigation

Risk	RAG	Planned mitigation
Staff retention. Two excellent staff members have been recruited to work full time alongside BBNPA’s two days a week and are immediately proving their worth in scaling and speeding up the project. It is in the nature of short-term contracts (11 months in this case) that staff start to look for future employment early. The SPF grant agreement cannot be fulfilled without this staff skill and capacity.	AMBER	Explore options to fund the two posts plus 2 days a week of BBNPA time beyond December 2024.
Consultancy capacity. The project rests on high-quality specialist analysis of Powys’ carbon footprint, fair share decarbonisation trajectory and carbon sequestration potential in a tight timescale. Until we have concluded the procurement process we do not know whether we can access the analysis we need within the budget and timescale we have. We also want to procure analysis that is possible to update in a cost-effective way in future.	AMBER	The procurement tender has been structured in a way to enable us to be flexible within pre-decided priorities.
Timely input from PSB members, wider stakeholders and communities. The PSB organisations are complex and it takes time to connect with appropriate officers. The public and third sectors are also very resource constrained which affects their ability to contribute. The Powys Climate Stakeholder Group is not currently representative of other organisations we need to engaged. Communities are not currently organised in form that makes it easy to involve them in climate action plan development.	AMBER	Minimise demands on PSB members. Work in a way that maximises synergies and efficiencies of collaboration and minimises additional demands. Relationship management with PSB members, stakeholders and communities with and clear communications about why their input is important, what is needed, in what form, and by when.
Feasibility studies. Conducting five meaningful studies within time and budget will be challenging.	AMBER	Work with stakeholders and subject experts to learn from wider experience and focus the studies on Powys specific barriers.
Impact assessment. In the SPF bid we committed to an impact assessment of the climate action plan. There is a risk we will not be able to assess the individual and cumulative impact of projects as a result of our analysis – including on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local economy. 	AMBER	An academic symposium is one way to draw on the expertise of academics to help with the complexity of analysis needed.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People facing socio-economic disadvantage. • People with protected characteristics. • Welsh language 		
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Delivery risks and mitigation

Developing a strategic climate analysis and action plan is intended to put Powys in the best possible position to scale and speed up delivery. However, this is not automatic and there are three red risks that relate to the ability of the Powys Climate Action Plan to be delivered once it is developed. We would welcome a Board discussion about these risks.

Risk	RAG	Mitigation
Public buy-in to the changes needed to reach net zero and become climate resilient.	RED	A coordinated package of communications is needed to explain and have dialogue with Powys communities and stakeholders about why the action in the Climate Action Plan is needed, what PSB organisations are doing to catalyse and enable a just transition, and how everyone can play their part. This work is not resourced and is not currently planned during or after 2024.
Funding for project delivery.	RED	The climate action plan will define a pipeline of fundable projects. Capacity will be needed to then raise those funds from public, community and private sources. That capacity is not currently planned for after 2024.
Funding for PSB climate coordination and leadership.	RED	The PSB is starting to enable stakeholders and communities to be a more active part of the solution. It is also starting to identify how the public sector can add value and be more efficient by working together. That work is not funded beyond 2024.