

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION  
December 2014**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Heather Delonnette  
Sustainable Futures Officer**

**SUBJECT: Well-being of Future Generations Early Adopters Work  
Programme**

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**REPORT FOR: Decision / Information**

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1. **Summary**

- 1.1 Powys County Council agreed to participate in the WLGA's Early Adopters programme to contribute to the development of the processes that will come into force with the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations Bill. This work will benefit Powys County Council through the extra support available; it will also contribute to the pan Wales programme preparing the processes and systems associated with the Bill.
- 1.2 The Well-being of Future Generations Bill proposes that devolved public bodies in Wales will need to demonstrate how they have considered sustainability in their decision making processes; are maximising their contributions to the Well-being Goals identified in the Bill; and contribute to local Well-being Plans. It also proposes the establishment of a statutory Commissioner for Future Generations and the establishment of statutory Public Service Boards. A diagram explaining the linkages within the Bill is attached in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 To start to develop the Early Adopters work programme, in Powys, an invitation to complete a Diagnostic Tool was sent to members of Management Team and Heads of Service, the purpose of which was to identify where participating authorities are on their sustainability journey and what areas are in need of support. The results showed that our strengths and weaknesses were similar to those of the other Early Adopter authorities.
- 1.4 A 'Critical Path' for Powys has been identified. This in turn highlighted the key actions needed to prepare for the Bill. Some of these would be internal actions, some would be in collaboration with partners and/or other Early Adopter authorities and some would feed into a pan-Wales approach. Support needs were also identified. These would be collated with the needs of the other Early Adopters to assess where the support would be best directed. These would tend to be in areas of collaboration and joint working in order to maximise the WLGA resources available.

Further information about the results can be found in Appendix 2. The actions identified have been expanded for this report, grouping them into three levels of support: pan-Wales, Early Adopters and partners, internal. (Appendix 3)

- 1.6 The Early Adopters programme has been developed for local authorities, who are felt to be further along in terms of sustainability than other public bodies in Wales, and is supported through the WLGA's Sustainable Development Framework. However there have been some discussions around the importance of working with other public sector partners to enable them to prepare for the legislation. In Powys' case this is likely to be even more pertinent due to the existing strong joint working within the LSB. That said the Early Adopters programme is for the whole of Wales where alternative solutions may be more appropriate. Due to the limited amount of support available through the WLGA SD Framework actions which have more collaboration and joint working are more likely to be supported than those with a more internal or process focus.

## 2. **Proposal**

- 2.1 The Work Programme, in Appendix 2 provides a number of actions which will help the Council to prepare for the legislation both internally and with relevant partners. Participation in the Early Adopters programme also allows the Council to influence the development of statutory guidance, performance measures and monitoring framework. It is therefore proposed that the Work Programme be agreed and implemented.

## 3. **One Powys Plan**

- 3.1 Sustainable Development is one of the Guiding Principles of the One Powys Plan. The work programme will help to prepare the Council, and its partners, for the legislation. Key outcomes for four of the five programmes of the current One Powys Plan have a strategic policy fit with the principles of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Bill.

- Programme 1 – Health and Adult Social Care
- Programme 2 – Children and Young People
- Programme 3 - Transforming Learning and Skills
- Programme 4 – Stronger Communities

- 3.2 Further updates on the progress and implications of the legislation and the Early Adopters work will be taken to the Transformation Board in February and Local Service Board in March.

## 4. **Options Considered/Available**

- 4.1 This report details the next steps in the Early Adopter programme which Powys County Council has previously agreed to take part in. Therefore no alternative options have been considered in this report. However the work programme was developed using a range of evidence and suggesting the best option to achieve the desired outcome.

5. **Preferred Choice and Reasons**

5.1 Continuing with the Early Adopters work will enable Powys County Council to continue to be at the forefront of sustainability in Wales. It also offers the opportunity to gain extra support and advice from a range of external organisations and to work collaboratively with other local authorities on issues.

6.1 **Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc**

6.2 Sustainable Development is one of the Guiding Principles of the One Plan. The work programme demonstrates our commitment to sustainability and will help to embed it further into the work of the Council and its partners in preparation for the legislation. This work should also have a positive impact on other cross cutting policies.

7. **Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing**

7.1 The legislation will aim to improve the long term wellbeing of current and future generations. However this work is unlikely to have a direct impact children and young people.

8. **Local Member(s)**

8.1 This proposal has no specific effect or significance for any particular electoral division.

9. **Other Front Line Services**

9.1 The proposal has no specific implications for front line services.

10. **Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, BS)**

10.1 The Legal Services support this proposal in preparation for the implementation of the proposed bill becoming law

10.2 Finance have noted the detail contained within the report. Any input into the Early Adopters programme will be funded from existing budgets. However, at a time, when physical resources are limited we must ensure that areas of collaboration and joint working are fully utilised so as not to further increase work pressures.

10.3 The Senior Manager, Regeneration and Corporate Property comments that support to embed sustainable development within our processes and corporate thinking will be welcome, allowing Powys County Council to become a leader in the field.

10.4 BS commented that they would be providing any administrative and financial support as and when required.

**11. Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc**

11.1 The legislation seeks to introduce statutory Public Service Boards, replacing Local Service Boards. This work offers the opportunity to work with our LSB partners to ready them for the legislation. The views of the Senior Manager, Organisational Development and Partnership Support, have been sought to ensure that the programme align and support each other, while being mindful of the implications of the legislation on the council itself.

**12. Corporate Communications**

12.1 No proactive communication action required at this stage.

**13. Statutory Officers**

13.1 The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the comments made by Finance.

13.2 The Solicitor for the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented: "I have nothing to add to the report."

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>That the proposed work programme be agreed and implemented</b>	<b>To enable the Council to participate fully in the Early Adopter programme</b>

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>			
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y / N</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y / N</b>

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	
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<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>Heather Delonnette</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>December 2014</b>

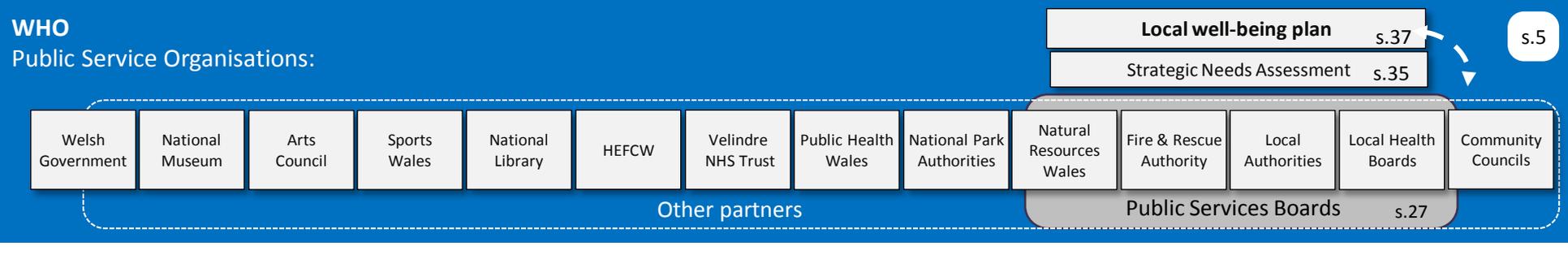
<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
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**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

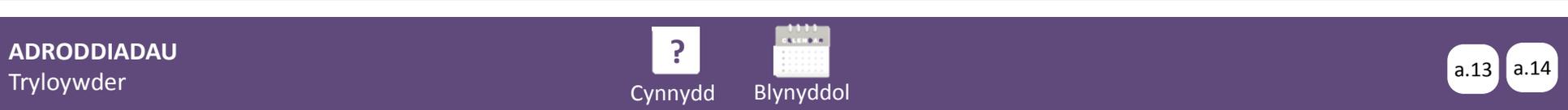
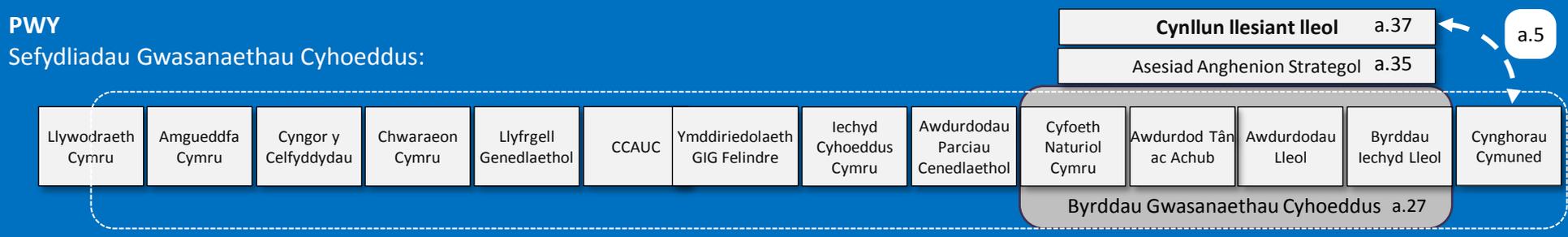
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill

WPGA Well-being of Future Generations Bill Early Adopters' Diagnostic: Self-Assessment – Powys Report

# Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill [Architecture]



# Bil Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) [Strwythur]



**NETHERWOOD SUSTAINABLE FUTURES**  
**Sustainable Development & Climate Change**  
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OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup> 2014

**WELL-BEING & FUTURE GENERATIONS BILL**

**POWYS COUNCIL - EARLY ADOPTION DIAGNOSTIC**

1. This document provides a note of discussions on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 between Powys Council, WLGA and Netherwood Sustainable Futures regarding the WLGA Future Generations Bill Diagnostic.
2. This work is part of a WLGA 'Early Adopter' project engaging 10 other local authorities and 3 National Parks in Wales. The project provides these authorities with support to prepare for the statutory requirements of the Bill following its adoption in 2015 – a 'critical path'.
3. Powys Council has committed to becoming an early adopter of the Well-Being and Future Generations Bill. Authorities are focusing on benefits of early adoption through efficiencies, risk management and compliance. This activity will inform Welsh Government guidance resulting from the legislation.
4. The discussion sought to identify actions for Powys Council to undertake which would help them to respond effectively and efficiently to the requirements of the FG Bill, with WLGA support, and in collaboration with other early adopter authorities.
5. In order to achieve this – three pieces of evidence were examined:
  - the results of Powys Council officers filling in an online diagnostic tool, which sought to examine which components, or elements of organisational change were necessary for a meaningful response to the Bill.
  - discussions held between WLGA and Powys Council officers in May 2014 regarding priorities for early adoption
  - feedback from Powys Council on an Early Adopter conference held by WLGA in March 2014

6. The resulting list of actions (below) will form part of a Cabinet Report to provide a mandate to progress the actions and engage with necessary service leads and partners.
7. There were a number of recurring themes which the evidence suggested needed to be considered.:
  - a) the fitness for purpose of Council strategy over the long term – particularly **Powys One Plan**, but also other key strategies.
  - b) the approach to this agenda adopted within **Project Boards** associated with Powys One Plan
  - c) the capacity for **members and senior officers** to use a future generations and sustainable development lens in their decision making and portfolio of work
  - d) the application of this lens to **regeneration**, particularly for **town services**
  - e) embedding this agenda in approaches to **service improvement planning**
  - f) the impact of the Bill on the nature of **financial and legal advice** given to decision makers
  - g) approaches to future generations and sustainable development in **cabinet reporting** to help members and senior officers in long term, preventative decision making
  - h) the timeframes for the Council's approach to **risk management** for both the organisation and community.
8. Actions are suggested in the table below with support needs identified. This list provides the framework for further discussions and work within Powys Council, with the WLGA and the consultants supporting the WLGA Sustainable Development Framework. It is proposed that the role of the Sustainable Futures Officer is to facilitate these items of work, with key senior leads in the Council taking responsibility for delivery.
9. This document is being sent to Heather Delonnette, Sarah Jowett and Susan Bolter from Powys Council and Neville Rookes from WLGA for their review as a first step to agreeing support needs from the WLGA.

**Dr. Alan Netherwood**  
**Netherwood Sustainable Futures**  
**15/10/2014**

Issue	What	Who
Powys One Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. External review to assess fitness for purpose related to aims of the Bill – long term, preventative, social, economic and environmental integration.</li> <li>2. To include consideration of LSB-PSB adaptation and external partner engagement.</li> </ol>	<p>Sustainable Development Commissioner (Peter Davies)</p> <p>WLGA consultant to review?</p> <p>One Plan lead officer.</p> <p>Key partners?</p>
Key strategies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Regeneration Strategy, Care Strategy and others as above. (WLGA to provide support on approach to review?)</li> </ol>	<p>Policy leads with</p> <p>WLGA consultant support</p>
Service Improvement Plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Review template, approach and capacity building related to embedding future generations and sustainable development.</li> </ol>	<p>Improvement lead with</p> <p>WLGA consultant</p>
Member and Senior Management Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Leadership training sessions based on town service delivery (Welshpool, Newtown, Hay)</li> <li>6. Scrutiny training</li> </ol>	<p>Sarah Powell</p> <p>WLGA consultant team</p> <p>Scrutiny lead</p>
Finance & Legal Advice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Key officers attend (and help to plan?) Wales wide session on:</li> <li>8. how the Bill might change Financial and Legal Advice –</li> <li>9. how advice can help to meet aims of the Bill</li> </ol>	<p>WLGA to plan and implement Wales wide session?</p>
Cabinet Reporting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Review the Cabinet Reporting mechanism (including template) in order to aid decision making which complies with the aims of the Bill</li> </ol>	<p>Cabinet lead</p> <p>WLGA consultant</p>
Risk Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Review approach to risk management in the light of the aims of the Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to focus on long term risks</li> <li>• linking organisational and community based risks,</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Risk Management lead</p> <p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>WLGA consultant</p>

## Well-being of Future Generations Bill

### Early Adopters Work Programme

Issue	Action	PCC	Links with Early Adopter Programme	External Collaboration Opportunities	Additional External Support Required
Finance and Legal Advice	Key officers attend (and help plan?) Wales wide session on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the Bill might change Financial and Legal advice</li> <li>• How advice can help to meet aims of the Bill.</li> </ul>	Relevant Officers	Development of statutory guidance  Development of consistent advice and practices	All public bodies  Professional organisations	WLGA to action
Risk Management	Review approach to risk management in light of the Bill's aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To focus on long term risks</li> <li>• Linking organisational and community based risks</li> </ul>	Risk Management lead  Emergency Planning	Development of the reporting and monitoring processes	All public bodies  Professional organisations	WLGA Consultant
Member and Senior Management Training	Scrutiny training	Scrutiny lead	Development of scrutiny training both internally and for the Well-being Plans	All public bodies	Welsh Government  WLGA Consultant team

	Leadership training sessions based on town service delivery (Welshpool, Newtown, Hay)	Training and Development lead	Development of capacity to assist with compliance	Other Early Adopters	WLGA Consultant team
Powys One Plan	External review to assess fitness for purpose related to aims of the Bill.	One Plan lead	Shadow work of the Commissioner	Other partners	Sustainable Futures Commissioner
	To include consideration of LSB -PSB adaptation and external partner engagement	One Plan lead	Development of statutory guidance	Other partners Other Early Adopters	WLGA Consultant Key partners
Cabinet reporting	Review the Cabinet reporting mechanism (including template) in order to ensure decision making complies with the aims of the Bill	Cabinet lead	Development of reporting and monitoring processes		WLGA Consultant
Service Improvement Plans	Review template, approach and capacity building to embed sustainable thinking	Improvement lead	Development of reporting processes		WLGA Consultant
Key Strategies	Regeneration Strategy, Care Strategy and others	Policy leads			WLGA Consultant