

## **PSB Scrutiny Committee**

**18<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

### **Scrutiny briefing: PSB scrutiny arrangements across Wales**

#### **Reason for report:**

At the last PSB Scrutiny meeting Members agreed that the Scrutiny Officer would investigate other Scrutiny arrangements with a view to visiting an active PSB Scrutiny Committee.

A desk top investigation of the information available on-line is outlined below.

#### **Joint Anglesey and Gwynedd**

No details of scrutiny arrangements online.

#### **Blaenau Gwent**

PSB Scrutiny Committee (Chairs and Vice-Chairs from all the scrutiny cttees plus and independent to make it politically balanced)

Meetings have been held on the:

- 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017
- 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017
- 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017
- 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018
- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Minutes are published online but agendas are unavailable.

[http://democracy.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/aksblaenau\\_gwent/users/public/admin/kab71.pl?cmte=PSB](http://democracy.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/aksblaenau_gwent/users/public/admin/kab71.pl?cmte=PSB)

## **Bridgend**

Appear to be setting up a PSB Overview and Scrutiny Committee (July 18) but no Committee papers available online.

<https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s16367/2%20-%2018%2007%2012%20-%20Item%205%20-%20Nomination%20of%20Members%20to%20PSB%20Scrutiny%20Panel.pdf>

Possible had a PSB Scrutiny before but not met since mid 2017.

## **Caerphilly**

Partnership Scrutiny Committee – meets twice yearly to echo the PSB meetings.

<https://democracy.caerphilly.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=495&LLL=0>

## **Cardiff**

The Council's Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee has formal responsibility for scrutinising the Cardiff Public Services Board. However, each of the other **Council scrutiny committees** can scrutinise specific Public Services Board issues falling under its terms of reference. Papers can be found [here](#)

## **Carmarthenshire**

### [The Scrutiny Committees](#)

#### **Policy & Resources**

This is the main overarching committee which has a key responsibility for monitoring authority-wide policy and performance issues and is the designated Scrutiny Committee for scrutinising the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board. It also monitors topics such as Finance, Council Property, Information Technology, Communications, Customer Services, Procurement and Human Resources.

<http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=170>

## **Ceredigion**

PSB Scrutiny is undertaken at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee (held in public).

<http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/your-council/councillors-committees/committees/coordinating/>

## **Conwy and Denbighshire PSB Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

A Joint Committee with appointments made but no public record of having met.  
Trained Feb 2019 – first meeting due to be May 2019.

## **Flintshire**

No details of PSB Scrutiny or PSB committee papers online.

## **Monmouthshire**

PSB Scrutiny undertaken in PSB Scrutiny Select Committee

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=260>

## **Neath Port Talbot**

No details of scrutiny arrangements online

## **Newport**

Has a Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships that also covers EAS  
(Regional Education Consortia)

<https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=447>

## **Pembrokeshire**

### **Partnerships Committee**

The role of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to review and scrutinise activity where the Council works in partnership or collaboratively with other agencies.

The Committee will act as the committee designated with responsibility for scrutinising the activity of the Public Services Board (PSB) as required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Committee will also scrutinise, where appropriate, where the Council works in partnership to deliver or commission services. It will also provide oversight where the Council works collaboratively with partners at a regional or national level. This is also the designated Committee for Crime and Disorder matters in accordance with section 19(1) of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

The remit and scope of the Committee in relation to PSB and other scrutiny is as follows;

## PSB

- Development and production of a local Well-being Assessment
- Development and production of a Well-being Plan
- PSB Annual Plan
- PSB activity and progress in delivering priorities
- Requiring any member or invited participant of the PSB to attend and give evidence (but only in relation to the exercise of joint functions undertaken by them as members of the PSB)

This was in place until May 2019. It is not clear online what has replaced it but it is understood that the scrutiny of the PSB will be undertaken in a Partnership Panel which will report to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will meet twice a year and will be held in public.

### **Joint RCT and Merthyr Tydfil (Cwm Taff PSB Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee)**

a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been established comprising elected Members of both Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils to scrutinise Cwm Taf Public Services Board.

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Council/CouncillorsCommitteesandMeetings/Committees/CwmTafPublicServicesBoardJointOverviewandScrutinyCommittee.aspx>

## **Swansea**

Scrutinised by the PSB Scrutiny Board Panel.

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=592&Year=0&LLL=0>

## **Torfaen**

Have a Public Services Board Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Have been meeting annually but have had 2 meetings this year to date.

<http://moderngov.torfaen.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=372>

## **Vale of Glamorgan**

The work of the board is scrutinised by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.

[https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our\\_council/Council-Structure/minutes\\_agendas\\_and\\_reports/agendas/Scrutiny-CPR/Scrutiny-Corporate-Resources-and-Performance.aspx](https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/Council-Structure/minutes_agendas_and_reports/agendas/Scrutiny-CPR/Scrutiny-Corporate-Resources-and-Performance.aspx)

## **Wrexham**

PSB Scrutiny is undertaken in the:

Customers, Performance, Resources & Governance Scrutiny Committee  
(Organisation) 13 Councillors

To ensure that we are customer focussed and innovative, soundly organised, resourced and governed, in order to deliver the best possible outcomes for the people of Wrexham. To scrutinise the activity of the Public Service Board (PSB) as required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

<http://moderngov.wrexham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=138>

## **Summary**

The authorities with the most similar scrutiny arrangements for PSB (in that there are dedicated PSB scrutiny arrangements) are:

- Monmouthshire
- RCT and Merthyr Tydfil (as Cwm Taff PSB Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
- Swansea
- Torfaen

## **Monmouthshire**

First met in June 2016 when they looked at Governance arrangements. Consists solely of County Councillors. Have met with the Chair of PSB, scrutinised the draft Well-being assessment, had updates on the Well-being plan and examined measuring well-being. Have quarterly meetings in the diary but have cancelled a couple for reasons unknown.

Monmouthshire broadcast some meetings:

10<sup>th</sup> October 2018:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e\\_CCVsWWNpc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_CCVsWWNpc)

9<sup>th</sup> January 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BBRtVJ954M>

Monmouthshire PSB Select Committee hold a pre-meeting.

### **Cwm Taff PSB Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

First met February 2017. Membership comprises of 10 Elected Members (5 from each authority) plus 5 Co-opted Members (Local Health Board, Community Health Council, Citizen Reps (one from each local authority) and Ambulance Service).

Have looked at the Draft Well-being Plan, interviewed the Chair of PSB and received updates on progress.

### **Swansea**

Minutes and agendas listed from August 2017. Have received briefing on Well-being Assessment, briefings on workstreams, updates on the Well-being Plan, a report on governance arrangements, a Q and A with the Future Generations Commissioner, had Q and As with Statutory bodies of PSB and monitored progress on work streams. Have had 10 meetings in diary since August 2017 and cancelled one. Membership includes 2 Co-opted Members

### **Torfaen**

First met January 2017. Have met 5 times since then. Membership entirely from Torfaen County Councillors. Have examined draft Well-Being assessment, draft Well-being Plan, Well-being Plan, Progress report and PSB Annual Report.

Torfaen webcast the Public Services Board Overview and Scrutiny Committee which can be accessed at:

<https://torfaen.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

### Recommendation

The PSB Scrutiny Committee consider the information provided and identify what further action may be required.

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