

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD HELD AT BY TEAMS ON THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 2020

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

In attendance:

- Councillor Rosemarie Harris (PCC) (In the Chair)
- Julian Atkins (Brecon Beacons National Park Authority)
- Stuart Bourne (PTHB) (by Skype)
- Nigel Brinn (PCC)
- Jamie Burt (PAVO)
- Martin Cox (NRW)
- Assistant Chief Fire Officer Iwan Cray (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
- Chief Inspector Adam Ellis (Dyfed Powys Police)
- Vivienne Harpwood (PTHB)
- Simon Hartley (Aecom)
- Jamie Marchant (Powys Teaching Health Board)
- Caroline Turner (Powys County Council)
- Dan Williams (Department of Work and Pensions)
- Councillor D Elwyn Williams (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)

Supporting:

- Rhian Jones (PCC)
- Emma Palmer (PCC)
- Steve Boyd (PCC)

Apologies for absence were received from Carl Cooper (PAVO), Christine Harley (HM Prisons and Probation Service), Peter Kennedy (Welsh Government), Chief Inspector Jacqui Lovett, Alison Perry (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner), Derrick Pugh (One Voice Wales), Carol Shillabeer (PTHB).

2. COVID-19 UPDATE

The partner bodies reported that there had been excellent co-operation during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Chief Executive of the County Council advised that the County Council and Powys Teaching Health Board were working closely on Test, Trace and Protect. She recognised the key role of PAVO in C-Sert and acknowledged the support of the Fire and Rescue Service and the Police during the flooding in February. The role of Town and Community Councils was acknowledged and the Board was advised that the County Council was organising a Teams meeting for them on 15 July.

The Board noted the letter from Julie James MS, Minister for Housing and Local Government encouraging Public Service Board partners to work collaboratively as they planned for the recovery phase of the pandemic to drive transformation in how services are delivered in future.

The Chief Executive of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority advised that the Park's development plan and management plan had been re-framed in light of the pandemic and he encouraged partners to engage in the consultation.

3.	2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT
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The Board noted the actions and deadlines that needed to be met to ensure that the draft Annual Report was published by July 2020 in accordance with the Well-being of Future Generations Wales Act:

- Step Leads to make final amendments to the report by 10th July
- Welsh Translation from 10th July – 24th July
- Publication of English and Welsh versions on PSB partner websites by 31st July.

The report would be in written form and the Chair would be asked to do a promotional V-log.

Stuart Bourne advised that he would submit his reports on Steps 5, 11 and 12 by the following week. Hugh Pattrick asked for One Voice Wales email address to be included.

Partners were reminded that the annual report did not have to be signed off by the individual organisations but they were asked to promote it on their websites.

4.	COVID-19 IMPACT / WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT
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Emma Palmer presented statistics showing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the county. The full report would be made available to partners when it had been translated. The Council welcomed any input from partner organisations.

5.	SUPPORT LOCAL POWYS
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The Board received a presentation on the County Council's Support Local Powys campaign that had just been launched and was being promoted through social media in support of local businesses. The Council was looking to extend the campaign to include the arts and tourism sectors and the Board noted the opportunity to market Powys as an active leisure destination. The partner organisations were asked to help promote the campaign.

6.	THE FUTURE GENERATIONS REPORT 2020 - FOR INFORMATION
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The Board noted the report of the Future Generations Commissioner, which set out the areas where public bodies should focus in meeting the aspirations of the Well-being of the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Public bodies would need to take these into account as they reviewed their well-being objectives part of the recovery from the pandemic.

7. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19th December 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Martin Cox of Natural Resources Wales reported on the Severn Valley Partnership which had been formed to address water management issues which were seen as a block on development. The partnership was putting together a large capital bid to the government on schemes such as the Shrewsbury bypass and flood storage reservoirs. A number of English local authorities were involved and with half of the river's catchment in Wales, it was important that Welsh organisations were involved. Nigel Brinn the Corporate Director (Environment) advised that he would work with Martin on this and report back to future meetings.

9. WELL-BEING STEP 7 DELIVERY PLAN

Simon Hartley of Aecom presented the results of detailed modelling on carbon emissions which indicated the scale of change needed if the target of creating a well-connected county with positive carbon equivalent emissions was to be met. The modelling showed that agriculture accounted for almost two thirds of emissions so it was proposed to exclude agriculture from the target as reducing emissions from this sector would be very difficult to achieve.

The priority areas for action were

- Increased tree planting and growing of energy crops
- Increase in renewable energy generation (all technologies)
- Improve the energy efficiency of the region's housing and building stock
- Transition to a zero carbon transport system.

This would be a Powys wide strategy involving both public and private sectors. It was noted that increased timber production and peat bog management offered great potential for reducing emissions and economic recovery from the pandemic. The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and NRW supported increasing the level of ambition for a green recovery.

The Board confirmed that it was content with the direction of travel and the work completed to date. More detail would be brought back to the next meeting when the Board confirm the level of engagement and the process for reviewing the draft strategy and signing off the final strategy.

Simon Hartley was asked to make his baseline data available to the partners.

10. DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS

The next meeting would be on 25th September 2020.

County Councillor Rosemarie Harris
Chair