

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNCIL
11th May 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Barry Thomas, Leader

SUBJECT: DRAFT One Powys Plan Update 2016-17

REPORT FOR: Consideration and Approval

1. Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the draft One Powys Plan (“OPP”) UPDATE 2016-17 for consideration and approval which is found at Appendix A.

2. Background and additional information

- 2.1 The One Powys Plan 2014-17 (Single Integrated Plan) was recommended by members of the Powys Local Service Board and agreed by Powys County Council on 30th April 2014. The plan outlines the priorities for multi-agency working which support and respond to clearly evidenced local needs of the community of Powys.
- 2.2 Whilst the integration of strategic plans makes sense, the production of a single integrated plan was a statutory requirement under the Shared Purpose; Shared Delivery guidance from Welsh Government.
- 2.3 Powys County Council is required to produce an annual improvement plan under statutory duties placed upon it under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, Part 1. The council took the unique decision to incorporate its improvement plan (formerly known as the Powys Change Plan) into the One Powys Plan 2014-17. This decision was made with the acknowledgement that significant change to service provision and outcomes for citizens of Powys is best achieved through working in partnership.
- 2.4 The unique course taken by the LSB and Powys County Council has been favourably received by both Welsh Government officials and the Wales Audit Office as ‘a step in the right direction’.
- 2.5 LSB and partner organisations have previously indicated their wish to apply a proportionate level of resource and effort to reviewing the OPP following the extensive work undertaken to bring together the original plan in 2014 and the investment in programme management and governance to ensure its successful delivery.
- 2.6 With the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015, the planning landscape for the partnership arena is changing and the new Public Service Board is required to agree a One Powys ‘Well-being’ Plan before May 2018. The Minister for Public Services has indicated that delivery of the current single integrated plan should continue until the new well-being plan is in place.

In its leadership role, the council has previously held discussions with both WG and WAO to find a balance between recognising that the OPP is a 3 - 4 year plan and the council meeting its statutory duty to produce an annual improvement plan.

- 2.7 An agreed approach to producing an annual update was agreed and supported in principle by both WG and WAO. We remain reasonably confident that the annual update 2016-17 meets the key requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, Part 1.
- 2.8 On entering the third year of the plan, the council recognises some tensions arising from integrating the council's statutory improvement plan within the One Powys Plan (OPP). The council has at times, found it difficult to use the OPP to easily identify and communicate the council's vision (as opposed the LSB's vision). This is necessary for engagement with staff, elected members, the public and stakeholders such as regulators. In addition, it is not always possible to easily see the links to the council's medium term financial strategy (MTFS). The council also recognises that other partners retain their own corporate planning frameworks.
- 2.9 The council will adhere to the current integrated approach to achieve statutory compliance for 2016/17. The council will however, develop a standalone Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2016-17, in parallel with the OPP Update 2016/17. This CIP will clearly define the council's vision, priorities and intended outcomes, clearly making links to the OPP, the MTFS and workforce strategy. This will help resolve the issues identified in section 2.8
- 2.10 The intention is to evolve this initial CIP into the council's future corporate plan as indicated in the current Local Government (Wales) Bill.

3. Background and additional information

- 3.1 Since publishing the One Powys Plan, the programmes have been further defining, planning and delivering the work that needs to be done to deliver the priorities and commitments.
- 3.2 To inform the 2016 review of the One Powys Plan 2014-17, Strategic Programme Managers have been asked to work with colleagues to review each programme giving particular consideration to the following:
 - Emerging sector pressures / challenges
 - Financial pressures / Savings requirements
 - Business Insight
 - Equality and Welsh Language pressures
 - Assessment of progress to date (Year 2 outline evaluation)
- 3.3 Those reviews have resulted in minimal changes to the broad direction of travel already agreed and most of the eleven themes are just re-confirming their position. Stronger Communities is showing the most significant change as a degree of focus moves to economic regeneration. These changes are supported by the business insight work undertaken on the economy in Powys.
- 3.4 The results of the reviews have been signed off by Programme Sponsors and approved by the relevant Programme Boards

- 3.5 The draft has been subject to further challenge through the LSB and council Joint Chairs and Vice Chairs Steering Group. Where appropriate, amendments been made to the update document, agreed with the relevant programme sponsor where applicable.
- 3.6 The update will be published bilingually whilst large print, braille and audiotape versions will be made available upon request, in line with PCC policy.

4. Proposal

- 4.1 That Cabinet consider and approve the One Powys Plan Update 2016-17.

5. One Powys Plan

- 5.1 The purpose of this report is to present a third year update of the One Powys Plan 2014-17 agreed in April 2014. Further detail is outlined in the body of the report.

6. Options Considered/Available

- 6.1 N/A

7. Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc.

- 7.1 In developing the One Powys Plan we have paid attention to the Welsh Governments forthcoming Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Bill. The One Powys Plan also picks up issues in relation to our statutory requirements.
- 7.2 The Guiding principles in the Plan state that we are committed to treating the Welsh and English languages on a basis of equality when providing services to the public, as we contribute to the creation of a truly prosperous, inclusive and bilingual Wales.

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

- 8.1 The One Powys Plan and the governance arrangements pick up our statutory requirements around Safeguarding and Wellbeing.

9. Local Member(s)

- 9.1 The One Powys Plan Update impacts with equal force across the whole County.

10. Other Front Line Services

- 10.1 N/A

11. Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

- 11.1 Finance - The Service Accountant commented: There are no budgetary implications as far as this paper is concerned.
- 11.2 Legal – The recommendation can be approved from a legal point of view.

12. Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc.

- 12.1 The LSB partners have been key stakeholders in the One Powys Plan review process and have approved the update for 2016-17.

13. Communications

- 13.1 Both Welsh Government and WAO have indicated the importance of presentation of these key documents as it gives a strong message regarding the importance and

value attached to the plan and the priorities identified within. The update will need to continue the precedence set in publishing the OPP 2014-217.

- An editing process has been undertaken which involved the editing of language and grammar to ensure that the document is customer friendly.
- The document will be designed and prepared for publication in electronic format
- The update will be published bilingually whilst large print, braille and audiotape versions will be made available upon request, in line with PCC policy.

14. Statutory Officers

14.1 Comment from the Strategic Director Resources (S151 officer): The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the comments made by finance.

14.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer): "I have nothing to add to the report."

15. Members' Interests

15.1 Not applicable.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
That the background is noted and the ONE POWYS PLAN Update 2016-17 in Appendix A to the report is approved.	To ensure that the council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Part 1 and 2).

Relevant Policy (ies):	One Powys Plan 2014 - 17		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	11 th May 2016

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Email:
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Background Papers used to prepare Report:

- One Powys Plan 2014 – 17
- Shared Purpose Shared Delivery – Welsh Government December 2012
- Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009