

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD HELD BY ZOOM ON
MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023**

PRESENT

County Councillor James Gibson-Watt (Leader PCC) Chair
Gavin Bown (NRW)
Carl Cooper (Chair PTHB)
Deputy Chief Fire Officer Iwan Cray (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
Chief Inspector Jacqui Lovatt (Dyfed Powys Police)
Emma Palmer (Interim Director of Corporate Services PCC)
Alison Perry (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)
Amy Richmond-Jones (Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service)
Clair Swales (Chief Executive PAVO)
Thomas Vetter (NRW)

Supporting:

Steve Boyd (PCC)
Lynwen Davies (Translator)
Catherine James (PCC)
James Langridge-Thomas (PCC)
Sarah Quibell (PCC)
Nicola Williams (PCC)
Thomas Yeo (PCC)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Mererid Bowley (Director Public Health PTHB), Carol Shillabeer (Chief Executive PTHB), Chief Inspector Thomas Sharville (Dyfed Powys Police), Caroline Turner (Chief Executive PCC).

2. UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP

The change in membership of the PSB was noted. Membership had been discussed at the workshop held on 26th January 2023 and was based upon the SPSF3: Collective Role (Public Service Boards) guidance that complements the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

The Statutory Partners were:

- Powys County Council
- Powys Teaching Health Board
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Natural Resource Wales

Invited Participants were:

- Dyfed Powys Police
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Dyfed Powys
- National Probation Service
- Powys Association of Voluntary Association
- Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Other organisations would be invited to contribute to appropriate working groups around identified steps. These were currently being developed to support the longer-term delivery of the Well-being Plan. The membership of the Public Service Board Scrutiny Committee's membership was also being reviewed.

3. CHILD POVERTY TASK FORCE - SARAH QUIBELL

Sarah Quibell, the Professional Lead for Education Support Services, gave a presentation on the Child Poverty Task Force which had been established by the Cabinet to work across all the public services to alleviate the growing crisis of child poverty in Powys communities. A conference had been held on 8th February and the outcomes from that day were the establishment of a working group to look at the cost of the non-school day and a Practice Exchange Event on 29 March 2023 to share practice and knowledge of existing work to reduce, prevent or mitigate the impact of child poverty across Wales.

It was confirmed that this was a Powys County Council plan. The Cabinet had made tackling poverty one of its corporate priorities, but it was recognised that it could not deliver this in isolation and that it would rely on the support of partners. It was noted that PTHB had its own plan and Sarah Quibell said that she would be happy to liaise with her opposite number at the Health Board. Clair Swales advised that PAVO had received a small grant to support engagement work with parents and grandparents on child poverty. Members of the PSB welcomed the collaborative approach being taken.

4. LOCAL ENERGY ACTION PLAN - TOM YEO

Tom Yeo, the Energy Lead for Growing Mid Wales, gave a presentation on the Local Energy Action Plan. He advised that the scope of the plan was to consider the full energy system in the local area, not just the Council's property estate. This included:

- Buildings – domestic, non-domestic, industrial.
- Transport – options for decarbonisation, requirements for charging.
- Energy Networks – electricity, gas.
- Local generation – small, medium scale.

And all the interactions between them.

The plan worked to a number of key principles:

- Up to a 12-month process, multi-vector and whole energy system.
- Structured engagement with key stakeholders.
- Supports the identification of action and activity.
- Technology agnostic – considering heat decarbonisation, buildings, generation, storage, energy networks and decarbonisation of transport.
- Providing granular outputs to identify the what and where (and how many).
- Provides an evidence base to leverage private and other investment.
- Data driven and spatially represented.

- Consider range of options across future local energy scenarios - assessed to 2050.
- Consider building fabric options alongside energy system options.

The Council was looking to rationalise its assets and invest in the remaining assets with schemes such as retrofitting. The NRW noted that the plan would need to have clear links with the emerging Well-Being Plan and that it needed to have a local flavour as to what would work.

All partners would be invited to stakeholder workshops. A steering group was working on the first draft of the plan to be ready by April 2023, with the final plan ready for approval by February 2024.

5.	CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE / GROWING MID WALES - NICOLA WILLIAMS
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Nicola Williams, the Strategic Programme Manager for the Corporate Joint Committee, gave a presentation on the CJC. The CJC consisted of the Leaders of Ceredigion and Powys County Councils and a member of the Brecon Beacons National Authority. The CJC had three specific functions:

- Strategic Development Planning – the Mid Wales CJC must prepare a Strategic Development Plan
- Regional Transport Planning – the Mid Wales CJC must prepare a Regional Transport Plan
- Economic Well-being – Regional Economic Development (to incorporate the Mid Wales Growth Deal).

She also gave an update on the Mid-Wales Growth Deal (MWGD). The Deal had objectives:

- to create between 1,100 and 1,400 net new jobs in Mid Wales by 2032.
- To support a net additional GVA uplift of between £570 million and £700 million for Mid Wales by 2032.
- To deliver a total investment of £280 million to £400 million in the Mid Wales Economy by 2032 (therefore a minimum of £170 million in private sector investment).

Seven projects requiring a total of £160m funding were in the Strategic Portfolio Business Case. Four projects focused on delivering a strengthened tourism offer, two projects focused on applied research and innovation and one project focused on agricultural, food and drink. There were no projects covering energy, digital, supporting enterprise or skills or employment.

The Strategic Portfolio Business Case would be tabled for approval by the Growing Mid Wales Board approval on 28 March 2023 then submitted to the UK and Welsh Governments for consideration at the Welsh Cites & Growth Deal Implementation Board meeting on 29th March and hopefully unlock £110 million funding for the region.

It was accepted that the PSB would need regular feedback so it could assess the economic impact of the Growth Deal.

6.	WELL-BEING PLAN UPDATE - CATHERINE JAMES / JAMES LANGRIDGE-THOMAS
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Catherine James, the Head of Transformation and Democratic Services. Gave an update on the Well-Being Plan. She advised that the plan was still being developed and that Welsh Government had supported delaying its submission beyond the original 1 May deadline to allow for scrutiny. The Plan was currently out for public consultation and partners were encouraged to publicise this to maximise the number of responses. A workshop had been arranged for Monday 3rd April and partners were asked to ensure that they were represented. It was agreed that the flyers publicising the consultation would be circulated again.

7.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
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None.

8.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
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The minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd October 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

9.	DATES OF FUTURE PSB MEETINGS
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Thursday 6th July 2023
Thursday 28th September 2023
Friday 15th December 2023.

A further meeting would be arranged before the July meeting to approve the Well Being Plan.

County Councillor J Gibson-Watt (Chair)