

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET EXECUTIVE

16 July 2024

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor David Thomas
Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate Transformation

REPORT TITLE: Sustainable Powys Programme: Principles

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report sets out the framework for Sustainable Powys, outlining the programme principles together with the place-based planning areas and principles which will be used to plan future services.

2. Background

- 2.1. Growing financial and workforce pressures are having an impact on the ability of public services to meet the needs of the population.
- 2.2. A transformation of Powys County Council is needed: making use of reduced assets across the county; breaking down silos between services and maximising coordination with external providers and partners. We must become more connected to the population we serve.
- 2.3. We need to redesign Powys County Council and the type and volume of services that we can offer to put the organisation on a more sustainable footing, moving away from year-on-year service cuts.
- 2.4. To achieve this transformation, Cabinet and Corporate Leadership Team agreed to establish the Re-Imagining Powys Programme in January 2023 (now referred to as "Sustainable Powys").
- 2.5. To govern the programme and set the standard for assessing our service visions and blueprints, two sets of principles have been drafted and informally agreed by Cabinet.

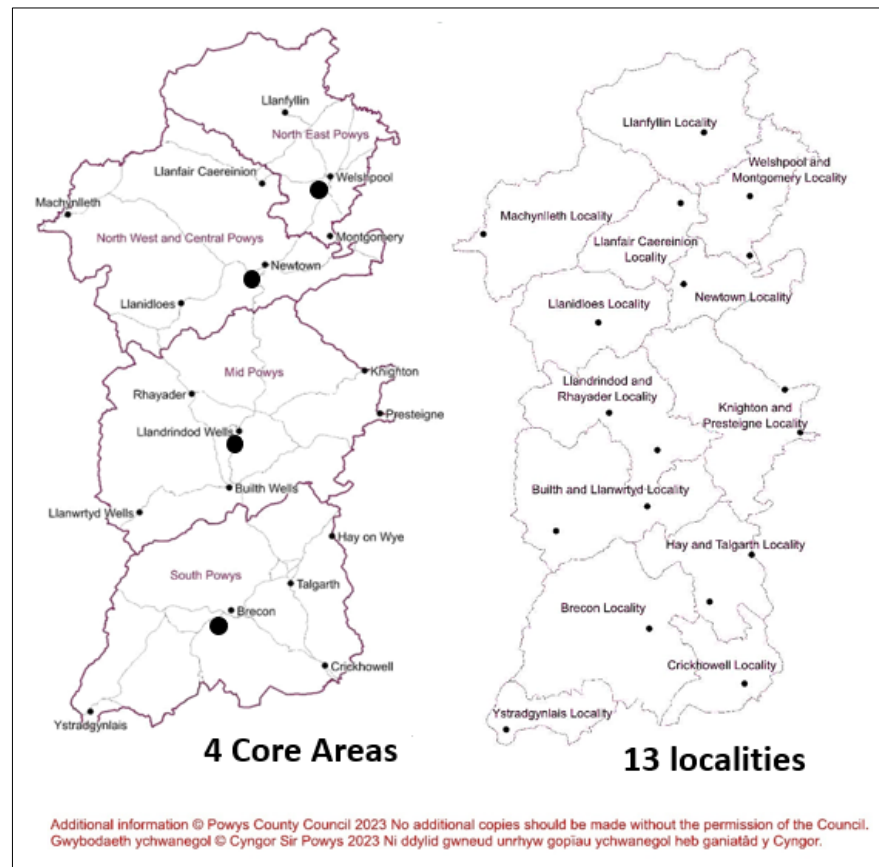
3. Sustainable Powys Principles

- Being open minded and seeking innovative solutions, using all the expertise available
- Delivering best possible outcomes through transformation to provide better quality services
- Using evidence – better understand need and model future demand, if we aren't getting results, we should change
- A continual process of learning and adapting to meet existing and long-term needs sustainably
- Engaging early with people in agreeing, designing and delivering approaches so we listen, understand, reflect and feedback

- Addressing the fundamental question: why do we do what we do?
- A strategic whole system approach, with partners, communities and the people of Powys
- Delivering outcomes that are affordable or no cost

4. Sustainable Powys Place-Based Planning: Areas and Principles

- 4.1. Place-based planning helps us to divide the county into manageable areas for service planning and for working with communities and partners.
- 4.2. The “locality model” is already used in Powys, breaking the county into 13 localities which are based around the main market towns (some are grouped together). It is proposed that the 13 localities fit inside four larger “core areas” defined by the following towns: Welshpool, Newtown, Llandrindod and Brecon.
- 4.3. By adopting the place planning model across organisations, it means services will be planned more efficiently collaboratively.
- 4.4. The map below identifies the proposed “four core areas” and “13 localities”



Proposed Place-Based Planning Areas

4.5. Place-Based Planning principles:

- We will provide a hub in each of the four core areas - anything else will only be provided if there is an approved business case to support it
- We will utilise schools and other community assets wherever we can for community-based solutions and services
- Travel times can be up to 1 hour to your nearest hub (even if you are a child)

- Provision must be digitally supported
- Public and Community transport must align each locality to the hub

4.6. It is proposed that service visions and associated blueprints for all Powys County Council services apply and adhere to these principles.

5. Resource implications

- 5.1. There are no resource implications associated with the setting of these principles, the delivery of the changes that are proposed will inform the Councils Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 5.2. The Director of Corporate Services (Section 151 Officer) notes the report and supports the approach and recommendations.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1. Legal: the report can be accepted from a legal point of view.
- 6.2. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as followed “I note the legal comment and support the report”

7. Comment from local member(s)

- 7.1. This report has an equal impact across the whole County and therefore comments have not been sought from individual Members.

8. Impact Assessment

- 8.1. An Impact Assessment will be developed when all services have a blueprint, and the full impact is understood.

9. Recommendation

That Cabinet:

- 9.1. approve the Sustainable Powys principles.
- 9.2. approve the Place-Based Planning principles.
- 9.3. approve the 4 core areas and 13 locality areas.

10. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 10.1. This report does not have climate change and nature Implications

11. Data Protection

- 11.1. Not applicable.

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