



FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	11 th July 2017
Report Author	Ewan McWilliams
Service Area	Performance
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	26 th July 2017

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the local authority to set and publish Wellbeing Objectives and to identify how we will work towards meeting those Wellbeing Objectives.
- 1.2 This report introduces the Council's Plan [**Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**], which sets out what we intend to do to work towards our Wellbeing Objectives. This plan is our first publication under the new legislation. It will undergo an annual review to make certain our work remains aligned to our Wellbeing Objectives.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

- 2.1 The Council's Plan [**Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**] be approved.
- 2.2 The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be given delegated powers to make minor amendments to the plan to keep it up to date be agreed.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 applied the wellbeing duty on local authorities. This duty means the local authority has to work towards the Wellbeing Goals using the sustainable development principle and involving people interested in achieving the goals.

- 3.2 Our initial Wellbeing Objectives were published on 22nd March 2017 and revised in our final publication on 28th June 2017. Our wellbeing will be kept under review to make certain they reflect what is important to our communities and align to the national wellbeing goals.

4.0 STATEMENT OF WELLBEING

- 4.1 Our Statement of Wellbeing sets out our Wellbeing Objectives. In brief, our Wellbeing Objectives cover four main groups:

4.2 Best Start to Life

- Children get the best start to life.
- Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals.

4.3 Working Life

- Making skills work for Merthyr Tydfil: Developing the workforce of the future.
- Developing the environment and infrastructure for business to flourish.

4.4 Environmental Wellbeing

- Communities protect, enhance and promote our natural environment and countryside.
- Communities protect, develop and promote our heritage and cultural assets.

4.5 Living Well

- Developing safer communities.
- People have good physical and mental wellbeing.
- People live independently.

- 4.6 Our Statement of Wellbeing, with a detailed description of each of our Wellbeing Objectives, is available via the Background Papers link.

5.0 FOCUS ON THE FUTURE: WELLBEING IN OUR COMMUNITY

- 5.1 As part of the development of the Council's Plan, our Councillors have given the Plan a name "**Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**". This plan sets out what we intend to do as we take all reasonable steps to meet to work towards our Wellbeing Objectives from two perspectives.

- 5.2 The first perspective sets out what we expect from the Councillors. Our Councillors have established their contribution to the Wellbeing Objectives in the form of developing community action. The Councillors will play a significant leadership role as community ambassadors, helping provide community intelligence and helping empower local people to transform their community and address the issues they face.

- 5.3 The second perspective sets out what we expect from the Council. Our senior officers have set out their contribution to the Wellbeing Objectives in the form of key projects. These were existing projects or project proposals that they believe will contribute to achieving our Wellbeing Objectives. The Council's senior officers will play a significant role planning and resourcing future services for Merthyr Tydfil.
- 5.4 The publication of our plan [**Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**] and our commitment to its successful delivery will help secure improvement against our Wellbeing Objectives.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report. However, the Council's Plan [**Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**] outlines the proposal to align the Medium Term Financial Plan to the local authority's Wellbeing Objectives.

7.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full assessment is required. The completed assessment can be accessed on the Council's website/intranet via the 'Equality Impact Assessment' link and identifies the need for the project proposals within the Council's Plan to undergo their own impact assessments.

GARETH CHAPMAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR KEVIN O'NEILL
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Focus on the Future Equality Impact Assessment	11/07/2017 15/06/2017	Background Papers Link Background Papers Link
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?	No	

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.