



## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Date Written	19/03/2018
Report Author	Andrew Mogford
Service Area	Performance and Change
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	26/03/2018

*To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen*

### **Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community**

#### **1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 Prior to the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Council produced a Corporate Plan that was aligned to the regional Single Integrated Plan (SIP). The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 changed this to focus on the Wales We Want which is emphasised in seven Wellbeing Goals have been passed by Welsh Government.
- 1.2 Together with this Act stated the ways in which we should work to achieve the goals. These are known as the five ways of working, i.e. long term; preventative; involvement; integration; collaboration.
- 1.3 To embed this change, MTCBC has developed an 'Our Shared Vision' document. This makes the connections from the seven national Wellbeing Goals through to the local objectives and political priorities.
- 1.4 In the first year of implementing the Act (i.e. 2016/17) we have monitored progress and recorded the lesson we have learned. This has led to streamlining and refocusing entering into the second year of implementation.
- 1.5 The nine Wellbeing Objectives have been reduced to four, one for each theme. This has helped us become more focussed to real change and most impact. It is important to note that the findings from the engagement with communities have not been lost.

- 1.6 To meet our statutory duty we will present the Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future documents to Council for approval on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 The Statement of Wellbeing document is scrutinised in terms of how the Council is meeting its requirements against the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 2.2 The Focus on the Future document is scrutinised in terms of how the Council is meeting its requirements against the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Prior to the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Council produced a Corporate Plan that was aligned to the regional Single Integrated Plan (SIP). However, each Council, and indeed areas across Wales, was not necessarily working towards a common goal. The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 changed this. Seven Wellbeing Goals for Wales have been passed for the 'Wales We Want'. These are: A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; A globally responsible Wales.
- 3.2 Together with this, the Act stated the ways in which we should work to achieve the goals. These are known as the five ways of working, i.e. long term; preventative; involvement; integration; collaboration. The Act also sets out the four pillars of Wellbeing, namely: cultural, economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the people who live and work in the County Borough. The five ways of working and four pillars should be used when appraising options for change and in any work and/or projects going forward. They should also be used to challenge what is being done within service areas and offer the challenge around doing different things.
- 3.3 The Act requires each Public Service Board (PSB) and Council to work with their communities to develop local objectives. Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC) and the Cwm Taf PSB have acted on this.
- 3.4 Approximately 12 months ago MTCBC released a Statement of Wellbeing and a Focus on the Future document following a substantial involvement and engagement exercise with the community. This was then completed in the wider Cwm Taf area; this replaces the old Corporate Plan and SIP.
- 3.5 To embed this change, MTCBC has developed an 'Our Shared Vision' document. This makes the connections from the seven national Wellbeing Goals through to the local objectives and political priorities. This document is contained within one page and acts as an easy to understand guide. When considered with service area strategies and operational plans a thread is

created that can be extended down to individual tasks. This helps staff members see how they are contributing to the Act and the 'Wales We Want'

# OUR SHARED VISION

## "ACTING TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW"

### The Wales we want:

A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A healthier Wales	A more equal Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
--------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------	---------------------------------	--	------------------------------

### The shared vision for Merthyr Tydfil to get there:

To strengthen Merthyr Tydfil's position as the regional centre for the Heads of the Valleys, and be a place to be proud of where:

People learn and develop skills to fulfil their ambitions,  
 People live, work, have a safe, healthy and fulfilled life,  
 People visit, enjoy and return

### How will Merthyr Tydfil CBC work?



Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Involvement



Collaboration

### How will we work together to deliver the Our Shared Vision and achieve our goals?

Focus on the Future	PSB Wellbeing Plan	Political Priorities
<p><b>Best Start to Life</b>                      Children and young people have the best start to life and are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals.</p>	<p><b>Community Resilience and Wellbeing</b>                      To promote safe, confident, strong and thriving communities improving the wellbeing of residents and visitors and building on our community assets.</p>	<p>We will look after all our citizens by providing an affordable quality education and social care enabling everybody to lead their lives to their full potential</p>
<p><b>Working Life</b>                      People feel supported to develop the skills required to meet the needs of businesses with a developing, safe infrastructure making Merthyr Tydfil as an attractive destination</p>	<p><b>Lifestyles, health and vulnerability</b>                      To help people live long and healthy lives and overcome any challenges</p>	<p>We will encourage active lifestyles and promote wellbeing.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Wellbeing</b>                      Communities protect, enhance and promote our environment and countryside</p>	<p><b>Economy and Infrastructure</b>                      To grow a strong local economy with sustainable transport that attracts people to live, work and play in Cwm Taf</p>	<p>We will support a strong, sustainable, diverse and successful economy</p>
<p><b>Living Well</b>                      People are empowered to live independently within their communities, where they are safe and enjoy good physical and mental health.</p>		

## **4.0 WHERE WE WERE**

4.1 As alluded to above, the Wellbeing Objectives for Merthyr Tydfil were developed following considerable involvement and engagement with the community. As such nine Wellbeing Objectives were formulated, these being:

- Best Start 1: Children get the best start to life;
- Best Start 2: Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals;
- Working Life 1: Making skills work for Merthyr Tydfil: Developing the workforce of the future;
- Working Life 2: Developing the environment and infrastructure for businesses to flourish;
- Environmental Wellbeing 1: Communities protect, enhance and promote our natural environment and countryside;
- Environmental Wellbeing 2: Communities protect, develop and promote our heritage and cultural assets;
- Living Well 1: Developing safer communities;
- Living Well 2: People have good physical and mental health; and
- Living Well 3: People live independently.

These objectives were formed under four themes, namely: Best Start (to Life); Working Life; Environmental Wellbeing; Living Well.

4.2 New governance arrangements were tested regarding the nine objectives. This was monitored via MTCBC Scrutiny Committees. Highlight reports were produced and responsible officers would attend the committees to provide updates on progress.

4.3 The new governance arrangements were monitored, a lessons learnt document produced and presented to the Governance Scrutiny Committee in January 2018. It was clear that due to the number of objectives and the way in which this was being governed, it became very resource intensive and one could argue low value for money. It also became apparent that non-project work was being overlooked (when compared to projects) even though it was making a positive impact on our Wellbeing Objectives.

## **5.0 WHERE WE ARE NOW**

5.1 Following analysis of the lessons learnt document put together over the last year, and engagement with Scrutiny Members regarding feedback on the process, we have worked with Chief Officers to streamline the Wellbeing Objectives and governance process.

- 5.2 The nine Wellbeing Objectives have been reduced to four, one for each theme (please see the 'Our Shared Vision' above). This has helped us become more focussed to real change and most impact. It is important to note that the findings from the engagement with communities have not been lost. We have been able to complete the end of year reports and these will be presented at the relevant Scrutiny Committees in the near future. It has also meant that we have been able to refocus on the day-to-day activities and project lists in best achieving our Wellbeing Objectives. This is reflected in both the Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future documents.
- 5.3 As required by the Act, MTCBC has to fulfil its statutory duty and publish a Statement of Wellbeing and the Focus on the Future Plan. The Statement of Wellbeing sets out our local Wellbeing Objectives for the community over a five year period, 2017 to 2022; in other words this is why we are doing what we set out. The Focus on the Future Plan goes into the detail of how and what we will do to achieve the Wellbeing Objectives. Appendix I is the draft Statement of Wellbeing, Appendix II is the draft Focus on the Future document, and there is also an accompanying equalities impact assessment.

## **6.0 WHERE WE WANT TO BE**

- 6.1 Once we have scrutinised and then published the documents, we will redesign the officer governance arrangements in line with setting the Scrutiny Forward Plan. It is envisaged that the governance arrangements could mirror that of the MTCBC Change Programme (reported as best practice by the Wales Audit Office) to make best use of officer time.
- 6.2 This will allow us to continue to build the thread from the high level 'Our Shared Vision' document down to individual performance appraisals. This will then enable us to refocus on self-evaluation and operational performance against action plans; meaning we will be able to better analyse success and monitor trend data.
- 6.3 By this time next year we will know our achievements and gaps better. This means we can become even more aware of how to impact on achievement of change and get best value for money in delivering the Wellbeing Objectives.

## **7.0 WHAT WE NEED TO DO NEXT**

- 7.1 Discuss and obtain the views of the Joint Scrutiny Committee regarding the Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future documents.
- 7.2 Present the Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future documents to Council for approval on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2018. These documents will then be translated into Welsh before being published on the MTCBC website and sent to the regulators (Wales Audit Office) by the end of April 2018.

## 8.0 CONTRIBUTION TO WELLBEING OBJECTIVES

8.1 The Statement of Wellbeing and Focus on the Future documents set out the Wellbeing Objectives.

**ELLIS COOPER**  
**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**COUNCILLOR ANDREW BARRY**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE  
AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		
<b>Title of Document(s)</b>	<b>Document(s) Date</b>	<b>Document Location</b>
Statement of Wellbeing (Version 1 – Year 1)	2017/18	<a href="https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/media/3299/20170824-statement-of-wellbeing-v2-en.pdf">https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/media/3299/20170824-statement-of-wellbeing-v2-en.pdf</a>
Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our Community (Version1 – Year 1)	2017/18	<a href="https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/media/3296/20170824-focus-on-the-future-2017-2022-en.pdf">https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/media/3296/20170824-focus-on-the-future-2017-2022-en.pdf</a>
<b>Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?</b>		<b>No</b>