



FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	10 th October 2018
Report Author	Andrew Mogford
Service Area	Performance
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	24 th October 2018

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

MTCBC Annual Performance Report

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report summarises MTCBC's Annual Performance Report (APR). Our APR is a document we publish to communicate our self-evaluation of delivery against our well-being objectives.
- 1.2 This year's APR document relates to the year April 2017 to March 2018.
- 1.3 The overall delivery of our well-being objectives is **Adequate**, where strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement. It is adequate because three of the well-being themes report adequate judgements with one reporting good outcomes.
- 1.4 The latest Annual Improvement Report for Merthyr Tydfil incorporates the Corporate Assessment and was issued in September 2018. The report concluded that, during 2017/18 **"the Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement"**.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

- 2.1 The MTCBC Annual Performance Report be approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The MTCBC Annual Performance Report (APR) is a statutory document that the Council publishes to communicate its self-evaluation of delivery against the approved well-being objectives. The intention of this document is to provide an overall assessment of Council performance during the year. This year's APR document relates to the period April 2017 to March 2018. There are judgements made against each well-being theme and an overall judgement.
- 3.2 As a result, it is important that the judgements made within this report receive challenge. This has been done by peer officer challenge throughout the year but also at scrutiny committees. The APR was challenged by Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday the 9th of October 2018.
- 3.3 The findings from the Annual Improvement Report (AIR) that were presented to Full Council by the Wales Audit Office on the 26th September 2018 will be used alongside the APR to further continuous improvement and in delivering our well-being objectives. This acts to integrate reports and delivery plans. If approved the APR will be published by the 31st October 2018 and thus meet our duty. The report concluded that, during 2017/18 **the Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement.**
- 3.4 During the course of the year, the Auditor General did not make any formal recommendations, however; a number of proposals for improvement have been made. In summary, this includes:
- Working towards better decision making and risk taking
 - Building on work already undertaken to improve the Council's Scrutiny arrangements to ensure they are 'Fit for the Future'.

4.0 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND WELL-BEING DUTY

- 4.1 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 applied the duty on all local authorities in Wales to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions by identifying their own priorities for improvement. This was achieved through our Corporate Plan.
- 4.2 The Corporate Plan ran from 2013 to 2017 and presented our seven priorities for improvement

Raising Standards

Priority Area 1 – Raising standards of attainment

Improving Well-being

Priority Area 2 – Promoting Independence

Priority Area 3 – Meeting the needs of vulnerable children

Priority Area 4 – Active Lifestyles

Economic Growth

Priority Area 5 – Economic Development
Priority Area 6 – Employability
Developing a Sustainable Environment
Priority Area 7 – A sustainable environment

- 4.3 In March 2017, at the end of the Corporate Plan, delivery of our corporate priorities for improvement was adequate because six of the seven corporate priorities were adequate with one reporting good outcomes.
- 4.4 The Council, like other public bodies, is now responding to the well-being duty as laid out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015. This duty requires that public bodies contribute to the achievement of the 7 national well-being goals and adopts sustainable development (5 ways of working) as the central organising principle.
- 4.5 The Council's well-being plan, Focus on the Future: Wellbeing in our communities represents our first contribution in taking steps to achieve the 7 well-being goals. This report looks back over the first year of that plan to assess our performance in delivering improvements to the economic, social, environment and cultural well-being in Merthyr Tydfil.
- 4.6 The overall delivery of our well-being objectives is Adequate - where strengths outweigh weakness, but important aspects require improvement. It is adequate because three of the four well-being themes report adequate judgements with one reporting good outcomes.
- 4.7 Focus on the Future runs from 2017-2022. In the first year of the plan we had nine well-being objectives across four well-being themes.

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

Working Life

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

Living Well

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

Environmental Well-being

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

4.8 The APR provides an overall assessment of council performance during 2017/18. The report is organised in sections to cover the following elements of work:

- Well-being objectives outlined in Focus on the Future
- Conclusions from audit and inspection work from our external regulators

4.9 This is our first attempt at measuring how the activities and services across the council can impact upon well-being. We have used a mixed method approach-combining quantitative and qualitative data to measure the impact on well-being in Merthyr Tydfil.

4.10 The assessment of council performance is presented in two parts. **Part One** looks at performance across the four well-being themes:

Best Start to Life
Living Well
Working Life
Environmental Well-being

4.11 Each well-being theme has a set of performance indicators used to measure progress. Where possible these indicators have been assigned a RAYG (Red; Amber; Yellow; Green) status to indicate their current position. This is defined below:

- **Excellent (Green)**, many strengths where we have a highly ranked comparative position, with positive rates of improvement and/or evidence of significant positive impact on change to outcomes
- **Good (Yellow)**, many strengths where our comparative position is above the Wales median, with positive rates of improvement and/or evidence of positive impact on change to outcomes
- **Adequate (Amber)**, some strengths where our comparative position is lower median, with some rates of improvement and/or evidence of some positive impact on change to outcomes
- **Unsatisfactory (Red)**, there are important areas for improvement where we have a low ranked comparative position, with little or negative rates of improvement and/or no impact of change to outcomes

4.12 Each well-being theme has its own well-being projects that were delivered during year 1 of the plan. These have been assigned a status to indicate if the project was delivered within agreed timescales. This is detailed in the appendices of the APR.

4.13 Each well-being theme includes a “**Did you know...**” section that promotes positive achievements from across the borough and includes valuable information to help illustrate the breadth of activities that the Council and its partners deliver to improve the lives of people living in Merthyr Tydfil.

4.14 **Part Two** of the assessment of council performance utilises qualitative data to demonstrate how we are working towards the 7 well-being goals. The data captured

in the case studies provide a rich account of the positive outcomes for individuals and communities.

- 4.15 Combining the information from the qualitative and quantitative sections of the report, we assess council performance for the year 2017/18 as Adequate. This means our strengths outweigh weakness, but important aspects require improvement.

5.0 WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE

- 5.1 The Chief Executive identified his personal aspirations in 2017 for the Local Authority to be one that is top performing, sustainable and with a good reputation for securing improvements. To determine if we are a top performing Council, we will evaluate improvements made in our priority areas and compare outcomes of performance across Wales where this information is available.
- 5.2 By using qualitative and quantitative data analysis and applying the sustainable development principles (five ways of working), MTCBC can continue to self-evaluate, challenge and improve to better deliver its well-being objectives and support regional and national delivery of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 5.3 As such MTCBC wants to improve on the 'Adequate' judgements across the well-being themes and further strengthen the 'Good' judgement; especially in our priority areas across the themes. These priorities are:
- **Best start to life** – Improve the educational outcomes for all children and young people
 - **Working Life** – Developing the environment / infrastructure for business to flourish
 - **Environmental Well-being** – Maximise efficient use of materials and resources by means of the waste hierarchy
 - **Living Well** – Safeguarding children and adults who are at risk of harm
- 5.4 To improve we will use the lessons learnt, together with areas for improvement and priorities in the APR and recommendations from the AIR to respond to external regulators and deliver our well-being objectives.
- 5.5 We will work to strengthen our corporate service improvement framework and self-evaluation processes, deliver changes and ensure alignment with the well-being duty.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Not Applicable
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	4 of 4	0 of 4	0 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement 	5 of 5	5 of 5	5 of 5
3. Protected Characteristics (<i>including Welsh Language</i>)	0 of 10	0 of 10	10 of 10
4. Biodiversity	1 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1
<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The main positive impacts are around the well-being objectives and five ways of working. The APR enables us to set out and deliver services that meet our objectives and work involve others, work collaboratively and integrate whilst being preventative and think long term.</p>			

Appendix 1 – MTCBC’s Annual Performance Report (Draft)

ELLIS COOPER
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR ANDREW BARRY
CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE
AND CORPORATE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Annual Improvement Report (WAO) 2017 / 2018	September 2018	Performance and Scrutiny Team
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.