

FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	3 rd April 2024 **
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Service Area	Corporate Centre
Exempt/Non-Exempt	Non-Exempt
Committee Date	17 th April 2024

Statement of Well-being and Corporate Wellbeing Plan – Acting Today for a Better Tomorrow

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Act states the ways in which we should work to achieve the goals (sustainable development principle). These are known as the 5 ways of working i.e. long term; preventative; involvement; integration; collaboration. To embed this change, MTCBC's 'Shared Vision' document makes the connections from the 7 national Well-being Goals through to the local well-being objectives and priorities.
- 1.2 This Corporate Well-being Plan is entering into its second year. Our new 4 well-being themes and objectives are: An Aspirational Merthyr Tydfil Focused on Learning; A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil; A Safe and Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil; A Clean and Green Merthyr Tydfil. This has helped us remove some of the naturally occurring siloes, whilst also sharpening governance arrangements.
- 1.3 The Council's Statement of Well-being reaffirms our 4 local Well-being Objectives for the community over a 5-year period, 2023 to 2028. In other words, this is why we are doing what's been set out in the Corporate Wellbeing Plan. The Corporate Wellbeing Plan goes into the detail of how and what we will do to achieve our well-being objectives. In readiness for 2024 implementation, there has been no evidence to indicate there is a need to change or amend the 4 themes and corresponding well-being objectives.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION that

- 2.1 The 'Statement of Well-being' and 'Corporate Wellbeing Plan – Acting Today for a Better Tomorrow' documents be approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 sets out for the first time in legislation, that public bodies are working towards the same purpose. The Act puts in place 7 national well-being goals which represent the shared vision for Wales. These 7 national goals are:



A Prosperous Wales



A Resilient Wales



A Healthier Wales



A More Equal Wales



A Wales of Cohesive
Communities



Wales of Vibrant Culture &
Thriving Welsh Language



A Globally Responsible
Wales

- 3.2 The Act states the ways in which we should work to achieve the goals by placing a duty on public bodies to work using the sustainable development principle, also known as the 5 ways of working:



Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement

This methodology has been used as part of the Council's corporate self-evaluation process, self-assessment and integrated impact assessments (that accompany each report that is presented to Cabinet and Council).

- 3.3 The Council undertook substantial involvement and engagement activities with our communities to identify community need and developed a joint needs assessment. This assessment provided the core evidence that supported the Council to develop its well-being objectives.
- 3.4 The Statement of Well-being sets out our local Well-being Objectives for the community; i.e. **why** we are doing this; The Corporate Wellbeing Plan goes into the detail of **how** and **what** we will do to achieve our well-being objectives; Our Shared Vision document outlines how the Council's well-being objectives align and complement the Public Service Board's objectives and the Lead Administration's Vision.
- 3.5 The first iteration of the Statement of Well-being and Corporate Wellbeing Plan was approved by Council last year, with subsequent refocussed iterations approved annually. This is the second iteration of the plan.

4.0 WHERE WE WERE

- 4.1 At the end of the first year of implementation a number of lessons have been learned. These are included in the Corporate Wellbeing Plan. Evidence demonstrated that the 4 themes contained within the plan were working however, there were some elements which required refocusing to ensure improved deliverability and reduction of duplication.
- 4.2 A key focus of the Corporate Wellbeing Plan is to ensure that we can economically, efficiently and effectively deliver our strategies, well-being objectives, and priorities to provide better outcomes for the residents of Merthyr Tydfil.

5.0 WHERE WE ARE NOW

- 5.1 The Council is completing its first year of implementing the Corporate Well-being Plan. As expected, the well-being themes, objectives and priority outcomes remain unchanged from the first year of the Plan. These are set out below:

Merthyr Tydfil CBC well-being objectives
An Aspirational Merthyr Tydfil focused on learning We will strengthen how we enable people to grow and reach their potential.
A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil We will empower people to live independent and dignified lives.
A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil We will support how our economy recovers and grows.
A Clean & Green Merthyr Tydfil We will support the creation of a clean and green environment now and in the future.

- 5.2 These wellbeing objectives form part of our scrutiny function work programmes. This provides assurance that the plan is being implemented appropriately and progress is being made against the outcomes within it.
- 5.3 Our quarterly performance and improvement reviews (QPIRs) provide an officer led challenge that complements our scrutiny function. The QPIRs allow the senior leadership team to challenge performance (and other aspects of governance) and testing the impact on our outcomes. This fits alongside our monthly Budget Board (finance monitoring) that focuses on our financial position and our Corporate Risk Register.
- 5.4 This year we have started to redesign our performance management and quality assurance framework as part of our corporate well-being plan. This Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework sets out robust approaches so that we can manage our performance and assure quality.

- 5.5 Findings from the Council’s self-evaluation process and self-assessment have been used as a source of evidence when developing the plan going forward. Additionally, the plan will now be used as a tool to ensure that service priorities continue to align with Council objectives and priorities.
- 5.6 As required by the Act, MTCBC must fulfil its statutory duty and publish a Statement of Well-being and the Corporate Wellbeing Plan. As in previous years and expected through self-assessment, we have used feedback from Scrutiny Meetings. The Statement of Well-being can be found in **Appendix 1** and the Corporate Wellbeing Plan – Acting Today for a Better Tomorrow in **Appendix 2**. We have also included case studies (**Appendix 3**) to show what we have done in year one of the plan and used this feedback to inform year two.

6.0 NEXT STEPS

- 6.1 If approved, the ‘Statement of Well-being’ and ‘Corporate Wellbeing Plan’ documents will be published in both Welsh and English and submitted to our regulators. These include the Audit Wales and Future Generations Commissioners Office.
- 6.2 The ‘Corporate Wellbeing Plan’ document will form the basis for service delivery and enable prioritisation. Appropriate internal governance arrangements will continue to be delivered, monitored and assessed.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific financial implications identified in this report. Any financial implications arising from the delivery of the plan will be reported to Cabinet/Council as appropriate, including potential options for funding.

8.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Neutral
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	4 of 4	0 of 4	0 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles	5 of 5	0 of 5	0 of 5
3. Protected Characteristics (including Welsh Language)	0 of 10	0 of 10	10 of 10
4. Socio-economic Disadvantage	6 of 6	0 of 6	0 of 6
5. Decarbonisation	0 of 6	0 of 6	6 of 6
6. Biodiversity and the resilience of Ecosystems	Maintained	Enhanced	Reduced
	1 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1

7. Consultation and Engagement	Undertaken	Due to be Undertaken	Not Required
	1 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1
8. Data and Evidence	Yes		No
	1 of 1		0 of 1
Summary			
The main positive impacts are:	<p>The statement and plan ensure that we are working towards our well-being objectives in the work that we are delivering. Also demonstrating that in doing this work we are continually thinking about the long term, preventing further problems from arising, integrating with other strategies and plans, and external duties placed upon us, whilst collaborating and involving people and communities who have an interest.</p> <p>The plan includes the cross cutting theme of tackling poverty and this has a positive impact on those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, which will assist in delivering better outcomes for people.</p> <p>The plan provides us with a focus to sustainably delivery our services to meet the needs of our residents and support the wider regional plan. The plan enables us to continue to build connections between people and empower communities in improving well-being.</p>		
The main negative impacts are:	No negative impacts have been identified.		

Appendix 1 – The Statement of Well-being

Appendix 2 – Corporate Wellbeing Plan – Acting Today for a Better Tomorrow

Appendix 3 – Case Studies

ELLIS COOPER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR GERAINT THOMAS
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
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.