

Draft Gwent  
Well-being  
Assessment



Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
**Gwent**  
Public Services Board

# Introduction



- Extensive work has been undertaken across the PSB partnership officers in providing both the main and Executive Summary.
- This is only the beginning, the assessment is not complete and will change during the consultative process.
- The assessment highlights key areas of impact. All parts of Gwent will have higher or lower levels impacts, it doesn't mean that issues don't exist in areas of low impact its just less prevalent.
- There will be a number of 'don't know yet' but the extensive full assessment will be the key document to unpick some of those areas during this exploratory stage.

# Draft Gwent Well-being Assessment - Introduction

- The Assessment tells us about all aspects of Well-being on a Gwent basis for the first time
- Covers 5 very different local authority areas, with different strengths and experiences
- Will help understand differences in communities and help to work collaboratively on issues affecting the whole region
- Highlights inequalities in our communities as well as opportunities



# What is the data telling us?



## What's good

- A **diverse economy** that is well placed to contribute to the industries of the future
- A **rich culture and heritage**
- **Strong communities** - many people feel connected to their neighbourhoods and proud of their surroundings
- A distinct and **iconic natural environment** is a significant resource.

## What isn't so good

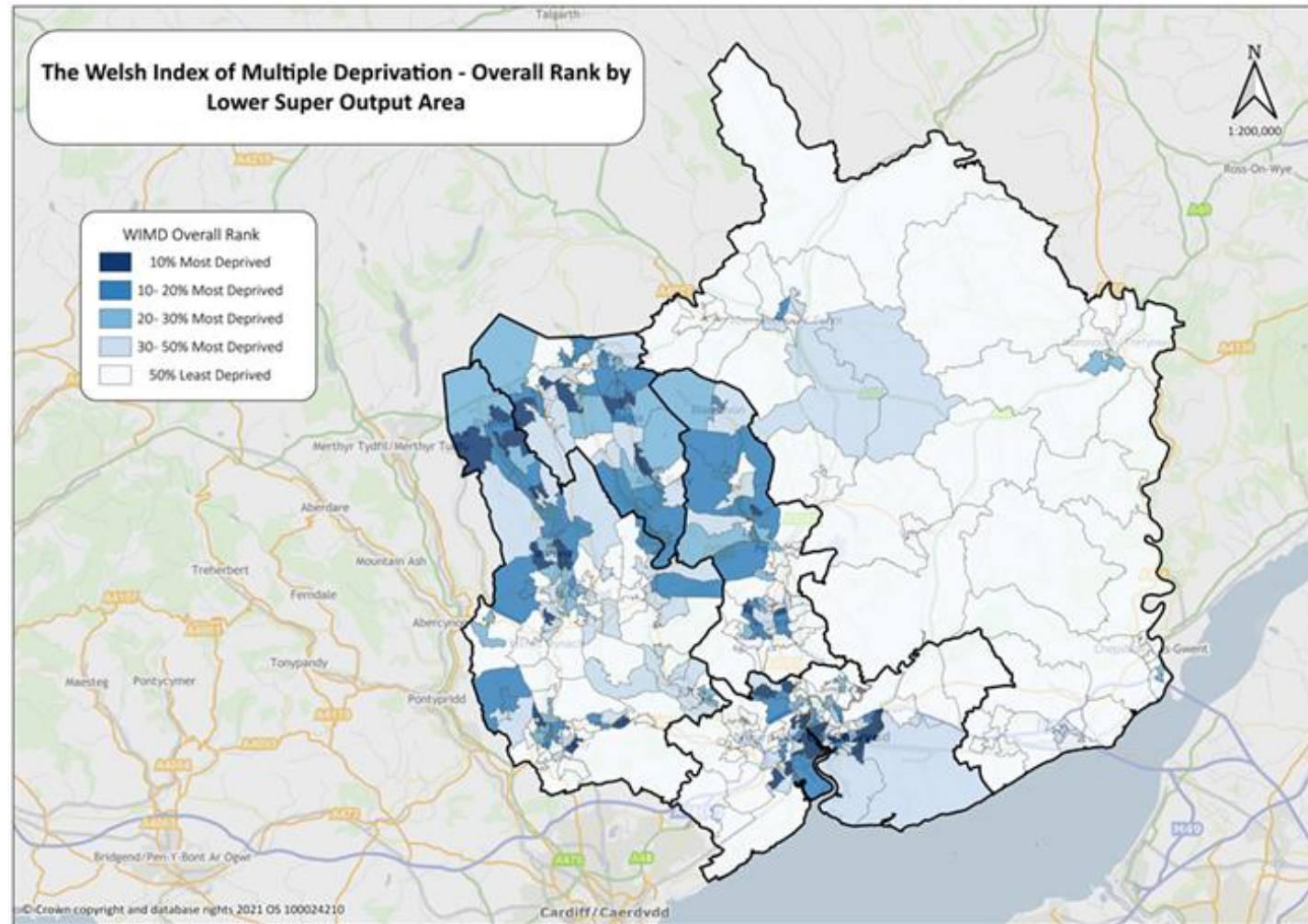
- There are significant health, education, housing, income and employment **inequalities**
- There is significant **deprivation**
- Condition of our natural resources and **declining biodiversity**



# Social Well-being - Deprivation

Area	Number	%
Blaenau Gwent	21	45
Caerphilly	26	24
Monmouthshire	1	2
Newport	33	35
Torfaen	19	32

- The Assessment highlights inequalities in Health, Housing and Education
- Most disadvantaged, disproportionately affected by Climate Change
- Most deprivation in valleys and areas surrounding towns/city centres



# Social Well-being - Housing



- Most housing deprivation around Newport City Centre, otherwise more uniform
- Blaenau Gwent (28%) highest proportion of deprived, Monmouthshire lowest (11%)
- Future housing needs to be Climate Change-resilient and suitable for an aging population
- Nearly 50,000 residential properties at risk of flooding in Gwent
- Potential for 300,00 houses to be powered by wind and 4m+ houses by solar energy

Area	Average sold price
Blaenau Gwent	£109,498
Caerphilly	£159,854
Monmouthshire	£312,219
Newport	£211,593
Torfaen	£180,052

Area	Average annual pay gross	House price to income ration
Blaenau Gwent	£28,531	3.8
Caerphilly	£31,550	5.1
Monmouthshire	£41,285	7.6
Newport	£32,187	6.6
Torfaen	£33,405	5.4

# Social Well-being - Health

- Significant health inequalities in Gwent – areas across Gwent (other than Monmouthshire) in top 10% most deprived
- St James in Caerphilly most deprived LSOA in Gwent and 7<sup>th</sup> most in Wales
- Blaenau Gwent highest proportion residents with limiting long-term illness but localised pockets in Gwent with very concerning levels
- Blaenau Gwent also highest premature death rate in Gwent although pockets in other areas, with Pill, Newport with more than double Wales rate
- Healthy life expectancy very unequal across Gwent

No LSOAs in top 20% most deprived in Wales per LA

Area	Number	%
Blaenau Gwent	17	<b>36</b>
Caerphilly	27	25
Monmouthshire	2	<b>4</b>
Newport	25	26
Torfaen	18	30

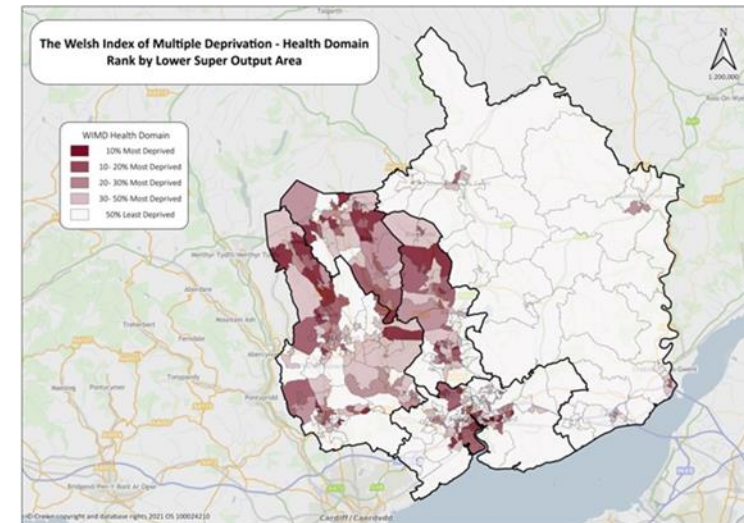
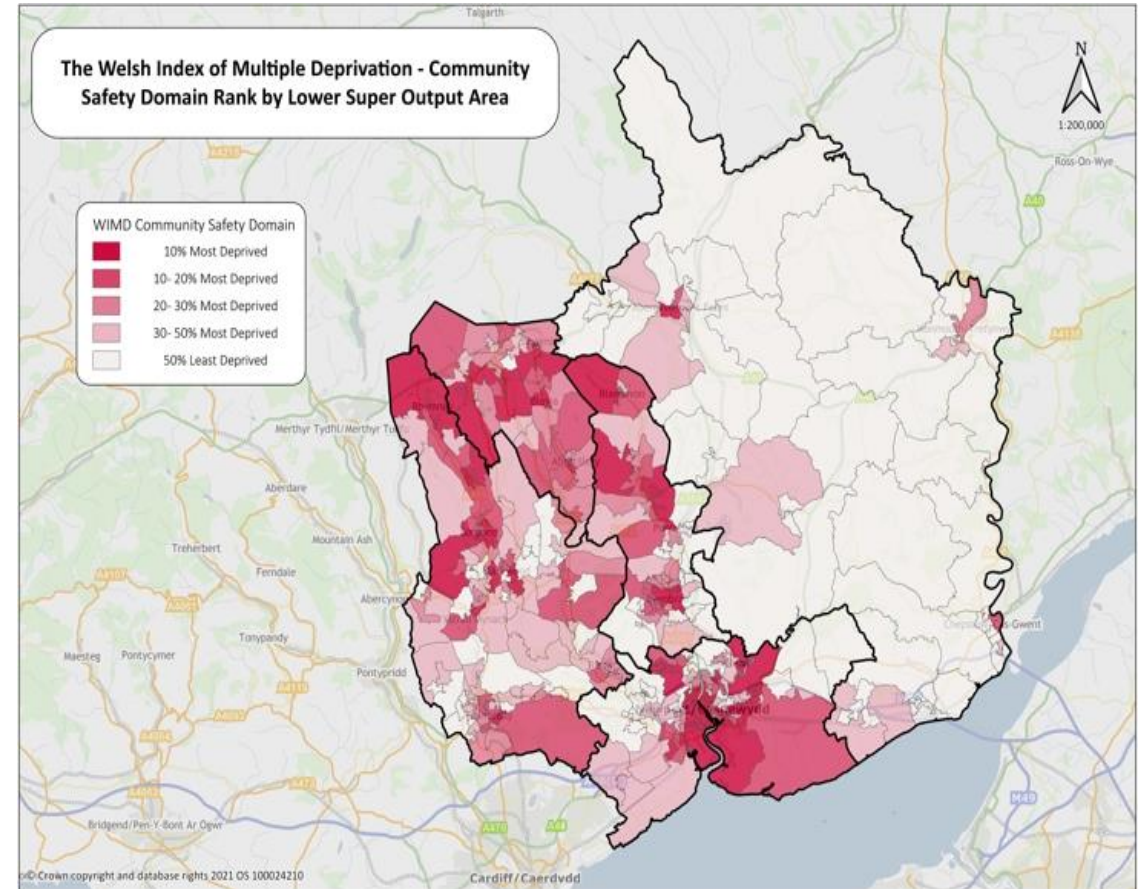
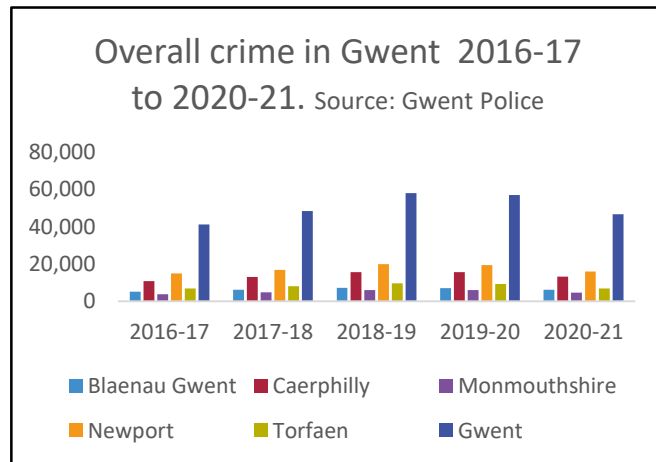


Figure 1: Gwent local authorities in highest health WIMD deprivation ranking



# Social Well-being – Community Safety

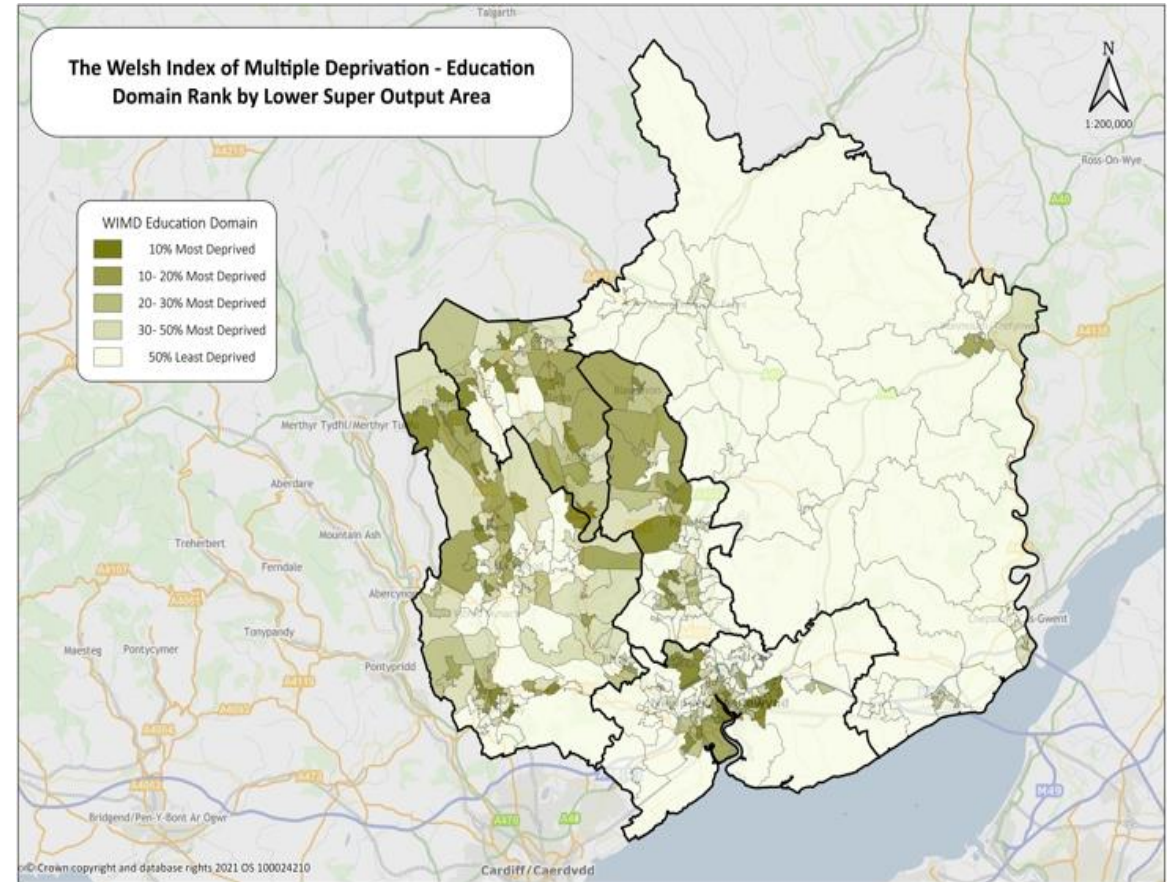
- Blaenau Gwent highest proportion LSOA in top 20% most deprived (53%), Monmouthshire lowest (5%)
- Overall crime increased 2016-2019 before Covid saw a reduction
- Focus on Prevention





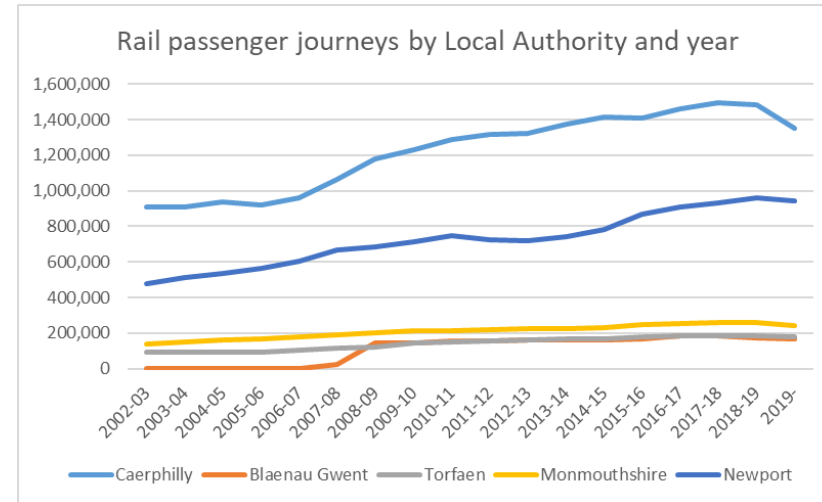
# Social Well-being - Education

- Noticeable variations in attainment/qualification levels across Gwent
- Families finding it hard to afford the basics in life – nearly a quarter of school age pupils eligible for free-school meals in Gwent
- Nearly 12% pupils from ethnic minority background
- Longer term impact of Covid on learning yet to be determined



# Social Well-being - Transport

- Good transport links crucial for economy, health, education and leisure
- Travelling by public transport is more difficult in rural areas of Gwent
- Public transport costs increasing
- Active travel can help keep aging population healthier for longer
- Traffic pollution negative impact on health
- Covid lockdowns increased working from home but better digital infrastructure is needed



The number of LSOAs in the top 20% most deprived for access to services in Wales

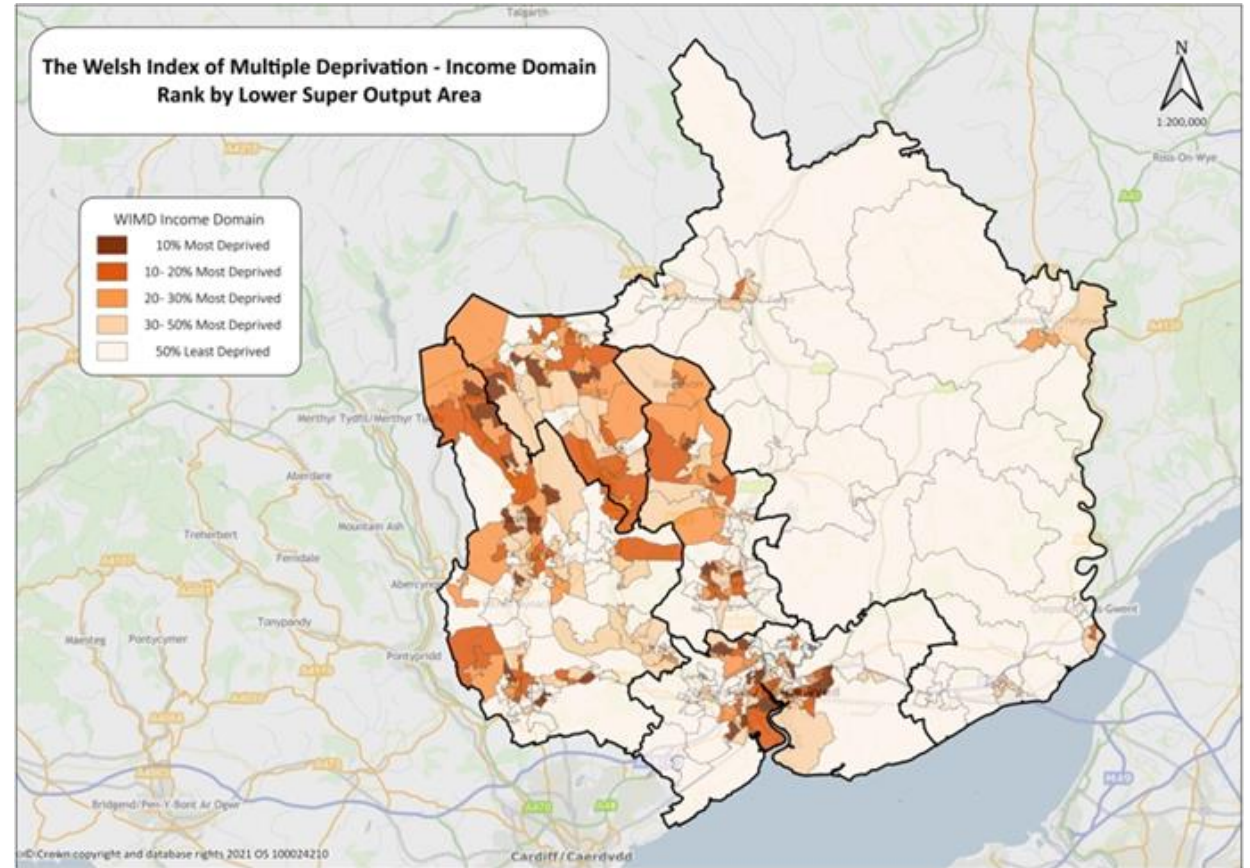
Area	Number	%
Blaenau Gwent	8	17
Caerphilly	5	5
Monmouthshire	22	39
Newport	8	8
Torfaen	3	5

# Economic Well-being - Income

- Many people on low pay – although unemployment is lower than 2011, still high income and employment deprivation in Gwent
- Blaenau Gwent highest proportion for income, and employment, deprivation although pockets in other areas also very high

No LSOAs in top 20% most deprived for income in Wales:

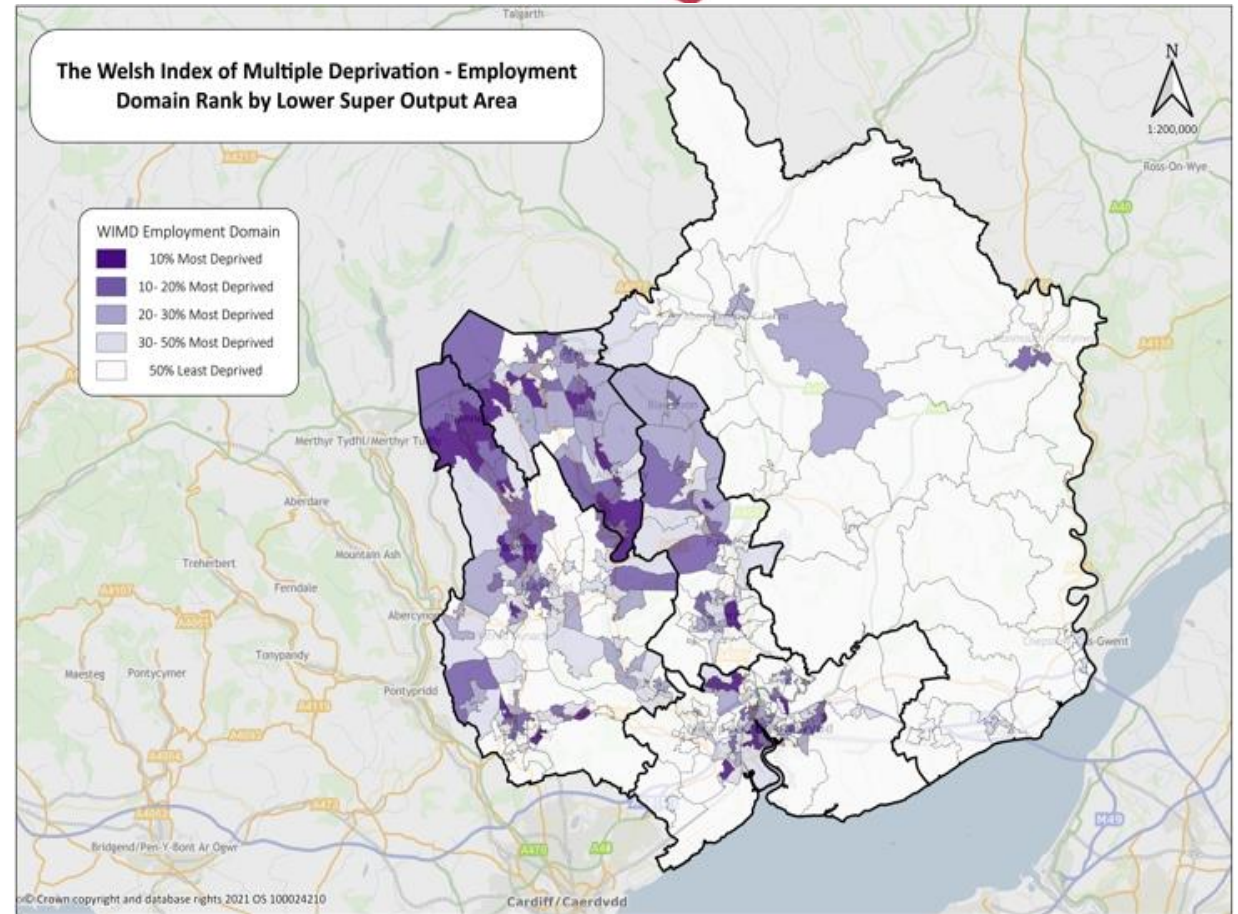
Blaenau Gwent	17	<b>36</b>
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# Economic Well-being - Employment

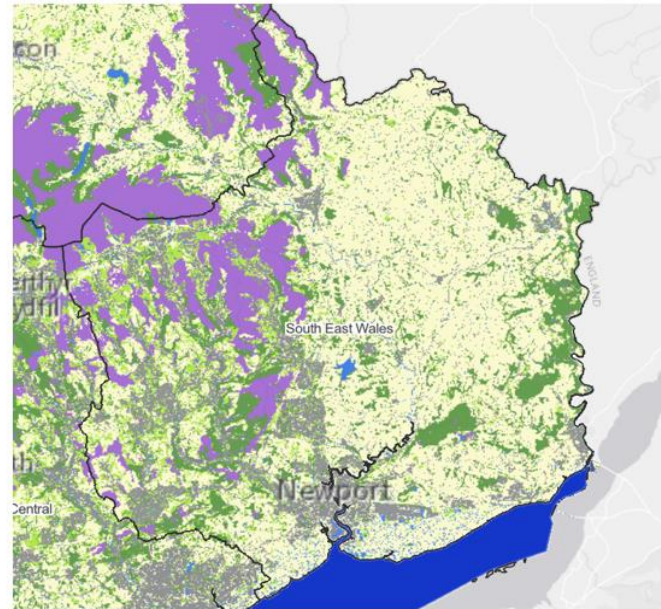
- Cost of childcare a barrier for families and need more flexibility in work patterns
- Long-term impact of Covid not yet known
- Gwent well placed to take advantage of emerging economic sectors – need to have right skills
- Develop local supply chains and energy efficient to make climate change resilient





# Environmental Well-being – Habitats

- Gwent has distinctive landscape areas and contribute to Well-being in a number of ways – food, water, fuel and other essentials
- Habitats and species under threat across Gwent (71% “unfavourable” condition assessment)
- Woodlands, grasslands, mountains, rivers all with less than favourable condition assessment status
- Competing demand for land (e.g. housing) causing habitat loss



## What the map shows

The ONS broad ecosystem classes.



# Environmental Well-being – Climate Change and Risk



- Climate change, over-use, pollution crime threatening natural resources
- Increased flood and drought risks
- Temperature increases likely to adversely affect landscape such as wildfire
- Major challenge to reduce negative impact of agriculture whilst maintain food production – 65% of Gwent is farmed land
- A number of Air Quality Management Areas in Gwent declared due to NO2 levels

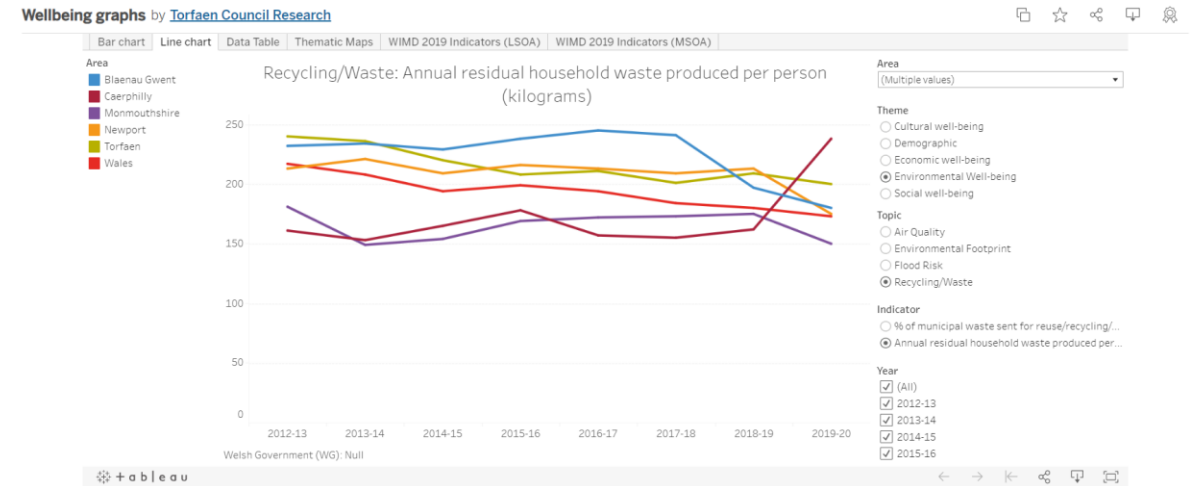
- Brexit and potential changes to agricultural practices

## Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report (2018) indicates that global warming in excess of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels will undermine life-support systems for humanity. It is predicted that if the world warms by 2°C, one in twenty of all species will be threatened with extinction

# Environmental Well-being – Net Zero & One Planet living

- If the rest of the world lived as we do in Wales, then we would need 3.3 planets to support us all
- Need to use resources efficiently, reducing consumption and recycling
- Gwent recycling rates above Welsh average but zero waste by 2050 challenging
- Need to look at food, energy and transport systems to reduce emissions
- Opportunities for low carbon systems in future



Blaenau Gwent	3.1
Caerphilly	3.1
Monmouthshire	3.4
Newport	3.2
Torfaen	3.1

Ecological footprint per person (global hectares) by LA

# Cultural Well-being



- Diverse cultural landscape in Gwent
- Inequalities in communities make it harder for some to access cultural activities
- Increasing numbers of Welsh speakers
- Impact of Covid on sports and culture – economic contribution of tourism in Gwent decreased by 70% in 2020 and FTE jobs reduced by 52% compared to 2019
- Creative economy has great potential to increase contribution to the economy but will take years
- Make sure have the right skills with opportunities for new businesses
- Aging population may help increase numbers of volunteers in the sector
- Risk to built and natural heritage is great but additional opportunities may occur in leisure and outdoor sports from climate change



# Challenges/Opportunities



- **Aging population**
  - Resilience to a **changing climate**
  - Long-term impact of **Covid-19**
  - Long-term impact of **leaving the EU**
  - **Decarbonisation** of heat, power and transport
  - Energy security
  - Food security
- All with the potential to **widen inequalities**

# Assessment Timetable



	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
Consultation draft completed	■	■					
Mature consultation draft sign off by PSB (7 <sup>th</sup> )		■					
Formal consultation		■	■	■	■		
Expert/officer test data analysis		■	■	■	■		
Scrutiny			■	■	■		
Collate/assess consultation responses			■	■	■		
Amend in light of consultation				■	■	■	
PSB sign off (10 <sup>th</sup> )					■		
Proofing/translation/design						■	■
Publish Assessment of Well-being - 5 <sup>th</sup> May							■

# The next steps

- For the PSB to review and agree the draft Assessment of Local Well-Being for consultation over the period 13th December 2021 to 31st January 2022
- Individual members to take the draft assessment through governance arrangements in their own organisation, support the consultation process within their own organisations, and also at the local delivery groups
- PSB to provide any comments on the draft assessment by Monday the 13th December prior to consultation with the statutory consultees
- PSB to consider lead members for areas of the assessment and to support the developing work
- The PSB commit to a workshop in mid-February to consider the results of the consultation and provide input to the response analysis. A date is being sought in the 3rd week of February to engage the PSB in this task