



## **SUBJECT: GWENT WELL-BEING PLAN 2023-28**

*Report written and submitted by: David Arnold, Professional Lead for Strategic Partnerships & Sarah King, Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships (Blaenau Gwent Council)*

<b>1</b>	<b>Areas Affected</b>
1.1	Gwent – all local areas.
<b>2</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
2.1	The purpose of this report is to present the final regional Well-Being Plan for Gwent 2023-28 for comment and consideration by the regional Gwent PSB Scrutiny Committee.
2.2	The final draft Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-28 is attached at Appendix 1.
<b>3</b>	<b>Background</b>
3.1	The 5 PSBs in Gwent dissolved in September 2021, in favour of merging to form a regional Gwent PSB. This followed an Audit Wales report into the effectiveness of PSBs, which recommended (amongst other things) that PSBs develop flexible models of working such as merging. Merging was to provide a more simplified and streamlined model and closer alignment with other existing regional boards, such as the Regional Partnership Board and Safeguarding Board.
3.2	Local Delivery Groups of the Gwent PSB have existed within each local authority area in Gwent since the inception of the GPSB, to ensure the continued delivery of the 2018-23 Well-Being Plans, and to deliver locally against regional well-being objectives going forward. Blaenau Gwent's Local Delivery Group is known as the BG Local Well-being Partnership.
3.3	The Gwent PSB brings public bodies together to work to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Gwent. They are responsible, under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, for overseeing the development and delivery of a new regional Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-28, which is a long term vision for the well-being of the area. Further information on Gwent PSB's purpose, aim, role and responsibilities can be found in the <a href="#">Terms of Reference</a> .

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3.4	<p>The Gwent PSB undertook a regional Well-being assessment which reviewed the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing in Gwent. The assessment used a wide range of qualitative and quantitative information including data, academic research, evidence, and people’s views (engagement) to help understand Wellbeing in Gwent. The assessment took an asset-based approach, rather than focussing purely on need, to build upon and identify the strengths of both individuals and communities and it also identified problems and challenges that need to be addressed. The evidence and key issues identified in the assessment have been used to develop the Wellbeing Plan for Gwent.</p>
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<b>4</b>	<b>GWENT WELL-BEING PLAN 2023-28</b>
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4.1	<p>This Gwent Well-being Plan is the first well-being plan of the regional Public Services Board, and it aims to set out the wellbeing objectives of the Gwent PSB and the steps it intends to take to meet those objectives. The final Gwent Wellbeing Plan should be published within 12 months of an election and is subject to a range of formal consultation and approval processes.</p>
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4.2	<p>Following the statutory consultation period in Oct – Dec 2022, the Well-being Plan has now set out two key objectives for the region, informed by the data, evidence, and feedback from a broad range of contributors and audiences. The feedback has been considered and has helped to shape the two main objectives and five steps in the final draft of the plan. Much of the feedback centred around the need for more integrated steps to work towards achieving both new regional well-being objectives, as well as calling for more focus on housing and action to help tackle the Cost of Living crisis across our communities.</p>
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4.3	<p>The two main well-being objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We want to create a fairer, more equitable and inclusive Gwent for all.</li> <li>2. We want to create a more climate-aware Gwent, where our environment is valued and protected, ensuring our well-being now and for future generations.</li> </ol> <p>The five steps to achieve these two overarching objectives are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take action to reduce the Cost of Living crisis in the longer term</li> <li>• Provide and enable the supply of good quality, affordable, appropriate homes</li> <li>• Take action to reduce our carbon emissions, help Gwent adapt to climate change, and protect and restore our natural environment</li> <li>• Take action to address inequalities, particularly in relation to health, through the framework of the Marmot principles</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable and support resilient, connected, thriving and safe communities</li> </ul>
4.4	<p>As the steps in the Gwent Well-being Plan suggest, the Gwent PSB is continuing to work with Professor Michael Marmot and the Institute of Health Equity, based at the University College London, as part of the Gwent Marmot pilot region. This work will be embedded through activity and delivery of the plan, which will be aimed at reducing inequality and inequity between populations guided by the eight Marmot principles which encompass the determinants of wellbeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give every child the best start in life</li> <li>• Enable all children, young people, and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives</li> <li>• Create fair employment and good work for all</li> <li>• Ensure a healthy standard of living for all</li> <li>• Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities</li> <li>• Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention</li> <li>• Tackle racism, discrimination, and their outcomes</li> <li>• Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together</li> </ul> <p>There are also four overarching principles for delivering against the plan as a partnership during 2023-28:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively working together</li> <li>• Communication and engagement</li> <li>• Welsh language and culture</li> <li>• Performance management</li> </ul>
4.5	<p>The Gwent PSB will consider the final Gwent Well-being Plan in June 2023, after it has been considered by each of the 5 Gwent local authorities and the regional scrutiny committee during February – April 2023.</p>
4.6	<p>It is also worth noting that once the Gwent Wellbeing Plan has been agreed, local well-being delivery plans for each of the five Gwent LA areas will subsequently be developed by the Local Delivery Groups to establish delivery of the regional priorities at a local level, and to also deliver on well-being priorities that are unique to their communities across.</p>
4.7	<p>The Local Delivery Groups, through their local delivery plans, will ensure that any local issues and concerns are addressed and align to the Gwent Well-being Objectives. They will also extend membership of working groups to relevant local organisations. Any specific arrangements can be scrutinised at a local level by the appropriate local authority scrutiny committee.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Funding</b>
5.1	<p>The Wellbeing Plan sets a strategic direction for the Gwent PSB. Specific projects to help achieve the wellbeing objectives will be developed once the</p>

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	plan is agreed. Where addition funding will be required, costed recommendations will be made to the appropriate decision maker.
5.2	Failure to a develop a well-being plan would lead to the Gwent PSB members not complying with the collective duties set out in the well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Permission has been sought from Welsh Government requesting an extension to statutory deadline to publish the Gwent Well-being Plan in May 2023 so that all members of the regional PSB have an opportunity to consider the final Plan and reconvene at the PSB meeting on 22 <sup>nd</sup> June to formally agree the Plan.
<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations to the Gwent PSB Scrutiny Committee</b>
6.1	<p><b>Option One</b> The Gwent PSB Scrutiny Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Considers and endorses the Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-28 as it is presented to them today.</li> </ol>
6.2	<p><b>Option Two</b> The Gwent PSB Scrutiny Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Considers the Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-28;</li> <li>II. Provides additional comments and feedback for consideration by the Gwent PSB during April-May 2023.</li> </ol>

**APPENDICES**

- Appendix 1: [Gwent Well-being Plan 2023-28](#)

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