

Appendix 2 Gwent Public Services Board – Area of focus full analysis

1. That every child has the best start in life

Why are we focusing on this? (Impact & Evidence)

What is the change we are trying to achieve and the evidence that informs this? (Predominately from the well-being assessment & Building a Fairer Gwent report)

The change that we are trying to achieve is that: **‘Every child in Gwent, regardless of the circumstances in which they are born, can have the best start in life’**. ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ highlights how persistent child poverty is associated with poorer mental wellbeing in children, poorer social and behavioural development, as well as worse educational outcomes, employment prospects and earning power into adulthood. ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ also advocates for an ongoing focus on implementation of the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme in Gwent, as well as reviewing maternity and parental leave policies. The Gwent PSB Well-being Assessment illustrates the high prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and reflects the consequences of these in the adult population, recommending a united approach to preventing ACEs, and emphasising the protective factors which can protect children from harm and reduce the long-term impact of trauma through the collective effort of services and communities.

Both the Gwent Well-being Assessment and ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ recognise the importance of improving our data and intelligence in early years. For example, ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ calls for the development of a consistent measure of school readiness, while the Well-being Assessment illustrates gaps in the reporting of some measures at local level. Through developing and then interpreting the intelligence we can establish a common intelligence-led understand of the needs of children in Gwent that will enable all partners to coalesce around a common set of priorities.

The period within which this work has been focused is from preconception to seven years of age, as this is the life stage which has the greatest impact in determining lifelong health and wellbeing factors.

What we want to do? (Outcome)

What is the outcome we are looking to achieve at a regional scale?

During the two best start in life workshops as part of the Areas of Focus work, there were five separate outcomes that were discussed with attendees. Recognising that this may dilute the regional focus by generating too many outputs and activities and not achieve impact, at the end of each workshop attendees were asked to prioritise each outcome. Looking at the number of votes for each of the five outcomes, two outcomes were most strongly preferred. These were:

- **Outcome 1: We are better at monitoring and measuring the needs of children, taking a continuous improvement approach.**
- **Outcome 2: All children and families are supported by all services that impact on 0-7 yrs, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.**

It is these two outcomes that the outputs, activities and inputs concentrate on in the rest of this template.

How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities)		
<i>What are the possible outputs and activities that are required? what do we need to do at a regional level to make it happen?</i>		
Timescale	Outputs	Activities
Short Term (12mths)	Outcome 1: We are better at monitoring and measuring the needs of children, taking a continuous improvement approach.	
	1.1 Undertake and publish a Best Start in Life Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) to bring together the intelligence and provide a single narrative about the experience of children in their early years in Gwent.	1.1.1 Form a JSA intelligence group across partners to coordinate work. 1.1.2 Create an agreed definition of what we mean by “best start in life” (i.e. what does it mean to professionals and families, what does the evidence tell us we should be measuring/doing) 1.1.3 Establish a consistent, evidence-based “school readiness measure” in Gwent to measure the effectiveness of early years interventions.
	Outcome 2: All children and families are supported by all services that impact on 0-7 yrs, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.	
	2.1 Make recommendations for improving maternity & parental leave policies among PSB member organisations.	2.1.1 Review best practice in maternity and parental leave policies, review current policies of PSB partner organisations and make recommendations.
	2.2 Gwent PSB provides leadership and support for the work of the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme.	2.2.1 Existing meeting network of early years integration leads maintained. 2.2.2 Governance structures established. 2.2.3 Recommendations for future direction agreed and supported by all organisations.
	2.3 Staff working across the early years system are making every contact count (MECC) trained.	2.3.1 PSB encourages all staff in early years to be MECC trained. 2.3.2 Existing training continues to be made available.
Medium Term (1-4yrs)	Outcome 1: We are better at monitoring and measuring the needs of children, taking a continuous improvement approach.	
	1.1 Create an early years data sharing system to better coordinate and target work with children and families.	1.1.1 Carry out an exercise to examine the potential of multiagency data linkage and data sharing in early years to inform joint working. 1.1.2 Improve existing data collection and data cleansing within the Healthy Child Wales Programme part 1. 1.1.3 Address any gaps in data gathering in early years identified through the JSA.

	1.2 Create a shared framework for continuous improvement in Early Years	1.2.1 Undertake training in continuous improvement with focus on Early Years teams and leads. 1.2.2 Focus on measurement for improvement principles when targeting, understanding and using time series early years data.
Outcome 2: All children and families are supported by all services that impact on 0-7 yrs, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.		
	2.1 Gwent PSB leads a coordinated, consistent approach to child poverty. 2.2 Misc	2.1.1 Establish a regional framework for implementing actions set out in the Child Poverty Strategy for Wales Child Poverty Strategy for Wales 2024 [HTML] GOV.WALES . 2.1.2 Embed trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness across all Gwent PSB organisations using a consistent approach and methodology, e.g. Trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (TrACE) Toolkit TrACE Toolkit - ACE Hub Wales . 2.1.3 Govt home energy efficiency and insulation grants promoted and targeted to families with young children by all PSB partners. 2.2.1 Extend recommendations for improving maternity and parental leave policies to private businesses in Gwent. 2.2.2 Widen the remit of the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme to broaden the scope of work to include all aspects of BaFG best start recommendations.
Long Term* (4yrs+)	Outcome 1: We are better at monitoring and measuring the needs of children, taking a continuous improvement approach.	
	1.1 Joint early years data warehouse in place.	
Outcome 2: All children and families are supported by all services that impact on 0-7 yrs, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.		
	2.1 Early years programmes are provided based on need not post codes.	
*Longer term activities and outputs will be re-set as part of the next well-being assessment and well-being plan.		
What conditions are required? (Inputs)		
<p><i>What do we already have at a regional level? What resources or arrangements already exist? Do we need to change anything? Do we require anything new? Who needs to be involved?</i></p> <p>Partners across Gwent such as the Health Board and local authorities collect significant amounts of information about children using various systems. In order to better understand our population, we need to collate this information and use this intelligence to plan our services.</p>		

Under the leadership of the Director of Public Health, the Public Health Team in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board has recently completed a Gwent joint strategic assessment (JSA). This approach and methodology can be built on to develop a 'Best Start in Life' JSA.

The Health Board and local authorities already collect information on children's development, but this information is not joined up. Joining up some of this information has started to be explored as part of Early Years Integration Transformation Programme (EYITP) and a data sharing protocol is being established.

The Early Years Integration Transformation Programme (EYITP) consists of key early years professions and departments across the five local authorities as well as Health Board services such as midwifery, health visiting, speech and language therapy, school nursing services and public health. It was enabled through WG transformation pathfinder grant funding which ceased March 2024. However, the vital work already achieved by this partnership and the EYITP key objectives can be taken forward through this work. It has two main purposes:

- To work alongside all families to ensure their child has the best start in life, taking into account what matters to them, accessing support if and when needed.
- To create a sustainable integrated model to meet families' needs at the right time in the right place by the right person

An early year's strategy and delivery programme has been developed. An information sharing protocol has been developed for the region to enable information sharing between the Health Board and local authorities.

The funding landscape across services is complex and made up of multiple streams including grant, core, and specific funding for specialist services. It is acknowledged that more work needs to be done to identify partnerships with the third sector and with families directly. To achieve our ambition to provide the Best Start in Life for infants and children across Gwent, we know this will take all of us, and therefore need to look beyond the boundaries and capacity of statutory services, and draw on the expertise and energy of our voluntary and community partners and reach more directly into communities themselves, so we know the work we do is achieved in collaboration with our residents and we can deliver change in a way that makes sense in the context of where our children are born, live and grow.

2. That everyone lives in a place they feel safe

Why are we focusing on this? (Impact & Evidence)

What is the change we are trying to achieve and the evidence that informs this? (Predominately from the well-being assessment & Building a Fairer Gwent report)

The change that we are trying to achieve is that: **‘Everyone Lives in a Place They Feel Safe’**. ‘The Gwent PSB Wellbeing Assessment illustrates the high prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and reflects the consequences of these in the adult population, recommending a united approach to preventing ACEs, and emphasising the protective factors which can protect children from harm and reduce the long-term impact of trauma through the collective effort of services and communities.

It also highlighted that deprivation and inequalities between different areas and the residents of Gwent may increase the likelihood of an individual becoming a victim of crime or becoming an offender. Offending behaviour can, in many instances, be traced back to social and family issues such as alcohol and drug misuse or domestic violence. Within Gwent, some of our most deprived communities are in close geographical proximity to the least deprived areas, and within every community there will be a mix of levels of deprivation amongst individuals and households.

The Building a Fairer Gwent report highlights how persistent child poverty is associated with poorer mental wellbeing in children, poorer social and behavioural development, as well as worse educational outcomes, employment prospects and earning power into adulthood.

The Gwent Serious Violence Strategy, under the new Serious Violence Duty, has agreed the vision should be “A Gwent without violence”. To achieve this vision requires a strategic approach based on a comprehensive understanding of the data, intelligence, evidence-base, partner and partnership priorities and community insight. The strategy identifies the initial key strategic priorities that are required to develop our understanding of existing data and intelligence, engagement with communities to seek their views and align and strengthen the maturing community partnership structures. at both local and regional level in Gwent. This is Consistent with IHE recommendation “*IWN implemented at scale in each local authority in all areas of deprivation*” - throughout Gwent.

What we want to do? (Outcome)

What is the outcome we are looking to achieve at a regional scale?

In the everyone lives in a place they feel safe, area of focus workshops, four separate outcomes were raised by those attending. The four outcomes were consistent across both workshops, with attendees strongly supporting the outcomes discussed. It was recognised that two of outcomes would naturally align to the Pan Gwent Community Safety Review, and the recommendations made in that report, as addressing the structural governance arrangements across Gwent would enable the delivery of those two proposed outcomes.

The other two outcomes discussed focused on preventative measures that would span regional, sub-regional and local levels. Attendees were keen to further develop existing models of practice, which included; TrACE Toolkit – ACE Hub Wales, and the Gwent Integrated Wellbeing Networks Place-Based working model.

The two proposed outcomes for the Gwent PSB were:

- **Outcome 1: Trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness is embedded across all Gwent PSB organisations, to protect children & young people from harm, and support healthy development.**
- **Outcome 2: Place-based models of working are developed at scale to address community tensions, cohesion and provide early help & support for communities across Gwent.**

The two proposed outcomes which align to the Pan-Gwent Community Safety Review were:

- **Outcome 3: The Gwent Serious Violence Duty Strategy is delivered to embed public health approaches across public sector organisations to prevent & tackle the drivers of serious violence within our communities.**
- **Outcome 4: Appropriate synergies and connectivity between community safety regional and local structures are established.**

Outcomes 1 & 2 are the focus of this template, considering outputs, activities and inputs.

How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities)		
<i>What are the possible outputs and activities that are required? what do we need to do at a regional level to make it happen?</i>		
Timescale	Outputs	Activities
Short Term (12mths)	Outcome 1: Trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness is embedded across all Gwent PSB organisations, to protect children & young people from harm, and support healthy development	
	1.1 Gwent PSB to lead a coordinated, consistent approach to trauma informed practice and ACE awareness across public sector organisations, to enable all Gwent PSB bodies to become TrACE aware organisations.	1.1.1 Establish the learning from the Gwent Police ACE’s training programme, and other delivery models (how was this approach undertaken? what worked well? and what can be taken from other training roll-out programmes to inform this work?) 1.1.2 Each PSB organisation commit to undertake an ACE Awareness self-assessment, to inform actions needed to embed TrACE into practice. 1.1.3 Start to develop a implementation plan, to assist PSB organisations to embed trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness training using a consistent approach and methodology, i.e. Trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences TrACE Toolkit - ACE Hub Wales.
	Outcome 2: Place-based models of working are developed at scale to address community tensions, cohesion and provide early help & support for communities across Gwent	
	2.1 Gwent PSB builds on existing models of place-based practice, to scale up work which supports early help, prevention, and cohesion across communities.	2.2.1 Identify existing models of delivery and networks of grass-roots support across communities, centred around place/neighbourhoods.

		<p>2.1.2 Widen the remit of existing place-based models of community support, wellbeing, and early help to include TRACE toolkit & ACE awareness, MECC (Making every contact count)</p> <p>2.3.1 PSB encourages all staff to be appropriately trained and supported to identify vulnerability, adversity, distress and trauma</p>
Medium Term (1-4yrs)	Outcome 1: Trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness is embedded across all Gwent PSB organisations, to protect children & young people from harm, and support healthy development	
	2.1 Gwent PSB to concentrate on a coordinated, consistent approach to trauma informed practice and ACE awareness across education and youth settings as a priority area.	<p>1.1.1 Review current self-assessments, implementation plans, and identified training plans within PSB organisations, with a view to prioritising staff within education and youth settings, and to also incorporate youth focused community-based services.</p> <p>1.1.2 Focus on measurements and data collection to aid monitoring & evaluation of progress.</p>
	Outcome 2: Place-based models of working are developed at scale to address community tensions, cohesion and provide early help & support for communities across Gwent	
	2.1 Gwent PSB strengthens existing models of place-based practice, to scale up work which supports early help, prevention, and cohesion across communities.	<p>2.1.1 Place-based/neighbourhood plans of community support developed which are aligned to areas of need, e.g. hotspot areas for youth ASB or support for vulnerable children & families.</p> <p>2.1.2 Develop with citizens and partners place-based/neighbourhood networks, which give residents/communities the autonomy to access self-help and support when required.</p> <p>2.1.3 Develop performance monitoring and evaluation of community approaches, to better understand community impact. This would look to include community engagement and feedback.</p>
Long Term* (4yrs+)	Outcome 1: Trauma-informed practice and ACE-awareness is embedded across all Gwent PSB organisations, to protect children & young people from harm, and support healthy development	
	1.1 Gwent PSB to embed and sustain a 'whole organisational' commitment in policies and culture, for trauma informed practice and ACE awareness across all services.	1.1 Review the progress made of the PSB organisations self-assessments, implementation plans and identified training plan delivery

		<p>1.1.2 Focus on measurements and data collection to aid monitoring & evaluation of progress within PSB bodies.</p> <p>1.1.3 Continuous reflection on current culture, practice, and process within PSB organisations, and the identification of opportunities to develop and implement approaches that reflect the five principles of the Wales trauma-informed approach.</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Place-based models of working are developed at scale to address community tensions, cohesion and provide early help & support for communities across Gwent</p>		
	<p>2.1 Gwent PSB to evaluate the delivery of place-based models of practice and the impact on people feeling safe.</p>	<p>2.1.1 Undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of place-based approaches in relation to people feeling safe.</p> <p>2.1.2 based on the impact on place-based working, PSB will commit to building safe and resilient communities through hyper-local models of practice.</p>

What conditions are required? (Inputs)

What do we already have at a regional level? What resources or arrangements already exist? Do we need to change anything? Do we require anything new? Who needs to be involved?

Public sector bodies hold and collect a range of data relevant to community safety/cohesion, but this information is not joined up, and there currently is no formal mechanism to share this across the wide range of partnerships/structures. The Gwent Serious Violence Strategy has highlighted the need to strengthen and align this information so strategies and delivery plans, boards and partnerships, and operational delivery can become intelligence led and targeted proportionately and appropriately. The Pan-Gwent Community Safety Review paper recognises there is a clear role for the newly proposed Gwent board, to challenge on efficiencies and alignment of the community safety structures and ensure effective governance arrangements are in place.

The funding landscape across community safety is complex and made up of multiple streams including grant, core, and specific funding for specialist services. Additional complexity is also created by the devolved/non-devolved nature of the broader community safety agendas, which can often be competing and lacks coherence, between the nations. Resources to address the community safety portfolio and community cohesion are often dictated by legislative/programme drivers, which are often predicated on recorded crime data statistics. Recorded data can often be unhelpful particularly where the evidence of need must be demonstrated, as data is often based on response (reactive) rather than early help/prevention (pro-active), which also does not consider 'apathy' and the communities lack of confidence in public sector responses in relation to feeling safe.

Community trust must be strengthened, and more work needs to be undertaken at a 'grassroots' level to truly understand what the challenges and opportunities are to within our neighbourhoods and communities, and how we can grow and develop the ambition to have safer communities by working with our citizens, centred around place or neighbourhood. This will require all PSB partners and the community to work together, beyond the boundaries and capacity of statutory services alone.

To develop place-based/neighbourhoods, the energy of our voluntary and community partners, and active citizens will need to be harnessed, as this will help with the reach into communities and unlock the power of participation and a sense of belonging. There are currently a few models of place-based/ neighbourhood working across Gwent that operate in various forms (such as the IWN model), at regional, sub-regional, local, and hyper-local levels. There are many 'boots on the ground' in our communities through a range of paid staff and unpaid volunteers, who work in partnership with the local citizens of all ages. If the PSB can strengthen collaboration with our resident, by working alongside them to develop place-based/neighbourhood networks that take an asset-based approach to community safety/cohesion, we can deliver change in a way that makes sense in the context of where our residents live and work, and their ability to thrive.

The Integrated Wellbeing Network Programme has developed hyper-local or neighbourhood approaches to wellbeing in areas across Gwent since 2019. The model is responsive to local context and differs in its implementation but core to its practice is the bringing together of communities and partners at the local place level to build relationships, connect and mobilise community assets and improve population wellbeing. Distributed models of leadership for the programme are emerging to continue to align local organisational plans to the models' objectives and share learning across Gwent. The evidence-base illustrates the potential of this approach to address community tensions, build cohesion and provide early help and support to communities and the public health team continue to develop evaluation tools to measure how this works in practice in Gwent.

We also know, organisations and systems that are not trauma-informed may exacerbate the impacts of adversity and trauma. Trauma informed organisations understand that trauma and distress can occur for anyone at any point across the life course. They will aim to create the right conditions for both the workforce and the people they support, with aims of minimising exposure to trauma, and distress. Through the adoption of becoming trauma informed, PSB organisations would be confident in understanding what intervention and/or support people may need, to prevent and mitigate the long-term impact on both physical and/or mental health and wellbeing more broadly. *"Trauma informed organisations work most effectively when they facilitate time and resources where they are needed most. They are integrated, person centred and embody the five ways of working of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015"* (**Trauma Informed Wales Report – 2022**)

3. Everyone has the Same Economic Chances

Why are we focusing on this? (Impact & Evidence)		
<p><i>What is the change we are trying to achieve and the evidence that informs this? (Predominately from the well-being assessment & Building a Fairer Gwent report)</i></p> <p>The change that we are trying to achieve through the outputs and activities in this proposed Outcome for the Gwent Public Services Board is focusing on promoting decent, fair, and sustainable employment opportunities, enhancing skills levels, and improving access to work, training and volunteering opportunities. The goal is to address levels of economic inactivity and long-term unemployment, and to champion a well-being economy where the needs of people and the environment are equally met across Gwent. This change is informed by evidence from the Gwent Well-being Assessment and Building a Fairer Gwent report and is identified as an area of focus in the A Well-being Economy – The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales & the Commissioner’s Cymru Can strategy.</p>		
What do we want to do? (Outcome)		
<p><i>What is the outcome we are looking to achieve at a regional scale?</i></p> <p>Enhance pathways to decent, fair & sustainable employment across Gwent through a coordinated partnership approach to education, skills, training, apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities.</p>		
How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities)		
<p><i>What are the possible outputs and activities that are required to achieve the Outcome? What do we need to do at a regional level to make it happen? This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.</i></p>		
Timescale	Outputs	Activities
Short Term <i>(0–12 months)</i>	1. Gwent PSB Leadership and PSB organisation commitments	1.1 Identify PSB lead(s) to provide leadership in working towards this Outcome. 1.2 PSB organisations to work in partnership with relevant organisations (such as DWP) to meet the Building a Fairer Gwent recommendation around ensuring all partners’ activities and employment/ skills/ training opportunities are signposted effectively.
	2. Identify key contributors to employment & skills provision across Gwent	2.1 Systematic further stakeholder analysis/mapping. 2.2 Establish a steering group / stakeholder network, coordinated by Gwent LA Employment & Skills leads. 2.3 Communications plan to deliver key messages and bring partners on board with desired Outcome. 2.4 Consider opportunity for PSB partners to develop a national lottery partnership bid (identified by Coleg Gwent) in 2024/25 for 'Sustainable Steps Wales - Green Careers'.

	<p>3. Develop a more coordinated regional long-term approach to the delivery of employment, skills & training activity</p>	<p>3.1 Map how employment, skills & training projects (e.g., UKSPF programmes) are being delivered at a local level across Gwent, including funding streams used, and identify at-scale opportunities working with Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) representatives.</p> <p>3.2 PSB Leadership and steering group to identify possible longer-term opportunities, including funding available, for the sector from 2025-28.</p> <p>3.3 Improved awareness amongst PSB organisations & access to local information.</p>
	<p>4. Improved regional partnership approach to understand and agree shared economic well-being goals / objectives for Gwent and avoid duplication</p>	<p>4.1 Work with CCR leads about their activity in the plan about “theme: Engage with key stakeholders when delivering Wales’ employability agenda and target individuals furthest away from the labour market.</p> <p>4.2 Evaluate with CCR what difference has been made 22/25 is being delivered and progress so far-in Gwent on this area of work.</p> <p>4.3 Engagement with private sector employers.</p> <p>4.4 Joint meeting with RPB health & social care workforce development priority leads.</p>
<p>Medium Term (1–3 years)</p>	<p>5. Gwent PSB Leadership and PSB organisation commitments: Consider how PSB organisations as employers can share resources / assets to improve resilience and ways of working across the public sector workforce</p>	<p>5.1 Review existing workforce policies in line with economic well-being objectives.</p> <p>5.2 Mapping volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>5.3 Develop opportunities for PSB organisations as major employers in the region to develop workforce practices. Including sharing of assets, agile working spaces and Internship opportunities.</p>
	<p>6. Build on partnership working with key contributors to employment & skills provision across Gwent</p>	<p>6.1 Steering group to work with Further and Higher Education providers to develop pathways to access education/training and how to target learners in specific areas of need, aligned to CCR priorities.</p> <p>6.2 Build on mapping to identify projects/programmes with scope for regional scale impact and seek out Community Based programmes.</p>
	<p>7. Develop a more coordinated regional approach to the delivery of employment, skills & training activity</p>	<p>7.1 Informed by mapping exercise, develop mechanisms to align funding opportunities (e.g. UKSPF & other Business Grants) more with regional economic well-being priority(ies).</p>
	<p>8. Identify new cross-sector partnership working opportunities to invest in Gwent</p>	<p>8.1 Build links with key private sector employers, including those established with CCR, to support delivery of objectives.</p> <p>8.2 Engage with Transport sector to identify and address regional barriers for accessing work, training, and volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>8.3 Explore and understand a Green / Well-being Economy for Gwent, to identify a regional approach that delivers for people and nature equally together.</p> <p>8.4 Work with Future Generations Commissioner to advocate for Local authorities, CCR to frame their economic plans around a well-being economy.</p>

		8.5 Building a shared understanding across public bodies about how we measure success in a well-being economy.
	9. Develop common understanding of future skills requirements for Gwent	9.1 Assessment of future skills requirements for Gwent (e.g. Green jobs), aligned and integrated to e.g. CCR priorities that benefit Gwent 9.2 Consider and develop consistent regional messaging around what the definition of 'Green' jobs and skills is. 9.3 Develop in partnership pathways for training and development in these skill requirements.
Long Term (4+ years)	10. Building networks and partnership working with key contributors to employment & skills provision across Gwent	10.1 Work with education and training partners to develop & deliver education, skills & training courses tailored to the needs of Gwent communities, aligned to CCR priorities around supporting people furthest away from work. 10.2 Analysis of previous Activity to identify where biggest impact has been achieved and consider future delivery plan.

What conditions & resources are required? (Inputs)

What do we already have at a regional level? What resources or arrangements already exist? Do we need to change anything? Do we require anything new? Who needs to be involved?

- Local Authority Employment & Skills teams leading on UKSPF deliverables at a local level
- Gwent PSB leadership & organisational leadership teams
- Cardiff Capital Region Skills Partnership, economic well-being priorities for SE Wales region and existing governance structures
- Coleg Gwent, USW outreach and widening participation programmes
- Careers Wales careers advice provision
- DWP employment and skills
- Gwent Green Grid Partnership
- 3rd Sector & Community Interest Companies promoting local employment & skills opportunities
- Support for the 3rd Sector to enhance volunteering opportunities
- Existing Apprenticeship & Internship opportunities
- Data from CCR & Building a Fairer Gwent to support evidence for what matters to the Gwent region specifically
- Private Sector businesses, finance and social enterprises

Integration with PSB Areas of Focus

Best Start in Life: by working with Education, training & skills providers to improve opportunities and pathways to employment for children & young people across Gwent.

Climate-Ready Communities where our Environment is Valued & Protected: by enhancing green skills & the greening of jobs as well as promoting more integrated, sustainable transport options to work & education.

The outputs & activities actively contribute to enhancing overall well-being, reducing inequalities, and fostering the sustainable development principle in Gwent. Moreover, our efforts resonate with the PSB's environmental sustainability objectives, reinforcing our commitment to building a healthier, more equitable and equal, prosperous and resilient Gwent.

4. That everyone lives in a climate-ready community where their environment is valued and protected

Impact		
That everyone lives in a climate-ready community where their environment is valued and protected		
What change do we want to achieve? (Outcome)		
<p>1. Gwent is more prepared for the future effects of climate change in an equitable way through better understanding of the regional risks</p> <p>Gwent’s communities, public services, organisations and businesses are already feeling the effects of a changing climate. To prepare now and for the future we need to work together, especially with those who will be most impacted, to understand the regional risks from climate change, and to respond, adapt and build our resilience, through an integrated regional approach which will maximise impact on well-being.</p> <p>If we work regionally and collaboratively we will be better prepared for the risks associated with, for example, more frequent coastal, river and surface flooding affecting transport, homes and services; heat waves, wildfires and air pollution; the impacts of drought on public water supply, food availability and wildlife, all of which impacts on peoples’ mental and physical health, increasing pressures on health, social care and childrens’ services.</p> <p>When we understand the risks, we can adapt for a changing climate, through interventions which create employment and volunteering opportunities, such as: ‘greening’ our urban areas to provide shade and cooling, reduce air pollution and allow more rainwater to be absorbed, reducing run-off; by restoring our rivers and managing our land more sustainably, reducing flood risk and soil erosion; and by changing behaviours together, protecting Gwent for future generations.</p>		
<p>How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities) <i>This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.</i></p>		
Timescale	Outputs	Activities
<p>Short/Medium term (ongoing) 2024-2028</p>	<p>1.1 Engagement and communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaborative and cross-sector • supported by regional, Gwent-focussed, engagement and communications resources to inform, involve and learn from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected members and public sector leaders • Public sector workforce • Gwent third sector and business sector • Gwent public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1 Scoping and stakeholder analysis 1.1.2 Establish cross-sector regional planning and delivery groups 1.1.3 Identify learning - current initiatives inc. Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly 1.1.4 Deliver regional engagement and communications plans supported by regional resources e.g. training, materials and tools
<p>Short Term 2024-2025</p>	<p>1.2 Gwent Climate Change Risk Assessment developed by regional cross sector groups through collaboration and engagement with key stakeholders</p>	<p>Developed from and informed by the engagement and communication activity 1.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2.1 Establish regional climate risk and adaptation planning and delivery groups 1.2.2 Plan and agree the approach and secure resources/funding 1.2.3 Share and collate data to develop a regional evidence base 1.2.4 Follow the Climate Change Risk Assessment Guidance for PSBs

Medium Term 2025-2028	1.3 Gwent Public Sector Adaptation Programme developed and delivered by cross sector groups/partnerships through collaboration and engagement with key stakeholders, co-ordinating with local delivery groups	Developed from and informed by the engagement and communication activity 1.1 and Gwent Climate Change Risk Assessment 1.2: 1.3.1 Establish regional climate adaptation delivery groups/partnerships 1.3.2 Co-ordinate approaches, secure resource inc. cross sector funding bids 1.3.3 Identify learning - current initiatives inc. from the Projects Mapping survey 1.3.4 Develop regional procedures and guidance supporting consistent delivery 1.3.5 Identify and support opportunities for third/private sector adaptation delivery 1.3.6 Co-ordinate regional initiatives which enable local delivery
Long Term Beyond 2028	1.4 Climate Adaptation Delivery Continuation Plan based on short/medium term performance evaluation that informs the next wellbeing assessment and incorporates new emerging evidence and changing trends	
What resources do we need and have? (Inputs) <i>This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.</i>		
Officers: e.g. NRW People and Places Team Gwent and Climate and Decarbonisation team; LA Civil Contingencies teams and land and asset management teams; Gwent Green Grid (GGG) Regional Nature and Climate Awareness Officer Guidance: e.g. Climate Change Risk Assessment Framework; Cynnal Cymru Carbon Literacy training Groups: e.g. Gwent Climate Change Officers Group; WLGA Climate Change Officers Network; ABUHB Climate Change Group; Local Resilience Forum; Monmouthshire Community Climate Champions Partnerships: e.g. Gwent Green Grid; Southeast Rivers Partnership; Severn Estuary Coastal Partnership; Living Levels Partnership		Plans: e.g. NRW Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2023-2027; Gwent Green Grid Nature Networks Project Delivery Plan Funding: e.g. WG Assets Collaboration Programme, European Horizon funding; Participation Funding GAVO; Shared Prosperity Fund Case studies (from Projects Mapping survey): e.g. Re:Make repair café; Newport Dragons and Pledgeball; GWT Stand for Nature Wales; Blaenau Gwent Climate Assembly; Rainscape schemes (sustainable drainage) Evidence/Data: e.g. Gwent Well-being Assessment; Communities at Risk Register Skills: e.g. 16 people completed Met Office 'Assessing your Climate Risk' training including representatives from Gwent Local authorities, ABUHB and NRW

Impact

That everyone lives in a climate-ready community where their environment is valued and protected

What change do we want to achieve? (Outcome)

2. Public sector land and infrastructure is providing maximum benefits for people, nature and climate in an equitable way

The public sector owns and manages land and infrastructure, for example around its buildings (including schools, early years settings, health centres and hospitals, police and fire stations, office buildings, libraries, etc), around the road network (including car parks, road verges, roundabouts, bus shelters, etc) and for public use such as play areas, parks, gardens, allotments, farms and other open green and blue spaces.

Whilst this land and infrastructure is managed for public benefit there are opportunities to maximise wellbeing, especially in areas of deprivation. For example enabling more people to be physically active near where they live and get involved in local gardening and food growing; developing safer community spaces that are well used by local people, tackling loneliness; more outdoor/natural play areas and early years and family outdoor activities; improved active travel routes; more green skills, jobs and volunteering opportunities; and at the same time improving air quality, increasing the number and diversity of nature- friendly spaces, addressing the nature emergency, and developing more attractive greener urban areas, adapting to the effects of climate change.

How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities) *This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.*

Timescale	Outputs	Activities
Short Term/Medium term 2024-2028	2.1 Engagement and communication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaborative and cross-sector • supported by regional, Gwent-focussed, engagement and communications resources to inform, involve and learn from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected members and public sector leaders • Public sector officers involved with all aspects of public sector land and infrastructure • Gwent third sector and business sector • Gwent public 	2.1.1 Scoping and stakeholder analysis 2.1.2 Establish cross-sector regional planning and delivery groups 2.1.3 Identify learning from current initiatives and good practice 2.1.4 Deliver regional engagement and communications plans supported by regional resources e.g. training, materials and tools
Short Term/Medium term 2024-2028	2.2 Regional groups/partnerships/networks of public sector officers involved with all aspects of public sector land and infrastructure, collaborating with organisations and groups	Developed from and informed by the engagement and communication activity 2.1: 2.2.1 Stakeholder analysis to inform collaborative, cross sector working 2.2.2 Facilitate the development of existing or new groups/partnerships/networks

	involved in community well-being, nature and climate initiatives.	2.2.3 Establish agreed ways of working and cooperation frameworks to support cross-sector collaborative working and funding bids
Short Term/Medium term 2024-2028	2.3 Enabling delivery of collaborative regional/sub-regional initiatives connecting people and the public estate for mutual benefit	Developed from and informed by the engagement and communication activity 2.1 and enabled and supported by the regional groups/partnership/networks 2.2: 2.3.1 Scope current good practices, successful projects that could be scaled up or joined up, and existing groups/partnerships/networks 2.3.2 Collaborative assessments of opportunities and barriers to inform development of regional policy, guidance and training enabling initiatives which maximise benefits for people, nature and climate involving public sector land and infrastructure 2.3.3 Co-ordinate regional initiatives which enable local delivery eg. through Local Delivery Groups
Long Term Beyond 2028	2.4 Continuation Plan based on short/medium term performance evaluation that informs the next wellbeing assessment and incorporates new emerging evidence and changing trends	
What resources are required? (Inputs) <i>This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.</i>		
<p>Officers: Eg. NRW People and Places and Land and Assets Teams; public sector Asset Managers, Service Delivery leads, Groundwork Wales, GAVO, Gwent Green Grid (GGG) Regional Health and Well-being, Nature isn't Neat, Green Skills and Training Officers; Torfaen Food Resilience Team</p> <p>Plans: Eg. Gwent Green Infrastructure Strategy; NRW Recreation and Access Strategy; Gwent Access Mapping; Local Authority Open Space Assessments, Dwr Cymru National Environment Plan; GGG Wildflower Watch citizen science project; Community Mapping</p> <p>Guidance: Greenspace Toolkit; Guidance for using the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions; Building with Nature; Gwent Green Infrastructure Strategy; Addressing the Nature Emergency through the Planning System; Curriculum Based Outdoor Learning resources</p> <p>Evidence/Data: WG Datamap Wales; Gwent Wellbeing Assessment (Environment Chapters); Local Green Infrastructure Assessments; Communities at Risk Register; Asset Management Systems Data; Public Sector Property Database (ePIMS); GGG Nature Networks Map</p>		<p>Partnerships: Eg. Food Resilience networks and partnerships; Living Levels Partnership; Local Nature Partnerships; Local Delivery Groups; Valleys Regional Park; Gwent Green Grid, Integrated Well-being Networks; Sustainable Food Partnerships</p> <p>Case Studies (from Projects Mapping survey):: Eg. GGG Nature isn't Neat; Social Prescribing schemes; Fly Tipping Action Wales (Gwent Levels); Biodiversity and Well-being Outreach Programme; Blaenau Gwent One Public Estate; Exploring Community Access to Farms & Land Blaenau Gwent Case Study Resilient Green Spaces; Right To Grow – Incredible Edible; GGG Pollinator Friendly Gwent</p> <p>Funding: WG Assets Collaboration Programme, Heritage Lottery Fund; TWIG (WG woodlands grant); Shared Prosperity Fund; WG Food Partnership grant</p>

5. Additional cross-cutting theme highlighted in feedback from Workshops and the Economic Chances & Climate-Ready Community mapping exercises

Impact		
<p>We are focusing on this area to address the pressing issues related to food security, healthy eating, and sustainable food production in Gwent. The impact and evidence supporting this focus come from the well-being assessment and the "Building a Fairer Gwent" report, which highlight challenges such as food poverty, inadequate access to nutritious food, and environmental concerns associated with current food systems. Food is also identified as an Area of Focus in the Future Generations Commissioner’s Cymru Can strategy.</p> <p>The change we aim to achieve is based on addressing the following issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food insecurity & support for community food sector • Gwent food sector & economy • Local, healthy, sustainable food production & consumption opportunities • Enhanced cross-sector partnership working approaches 		
What change do we want to achieve? (Outcome)		
<p>A more coordinated and integrated cross-sector partnership approach to Food across Gwent, with a focus on addressing food insecurity & supporting the community food sector, promoting healthy & sustainable food provision, developing the Gwent food economy, and supporting sustainable food production & consumption practices.</p>		
How are we going to do this? (Outputs & Activities)		
<p><i>What are the possible outputs and activities that are required to achieve the Outcome? What do we need to do at a regional level to make it happen? This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.</i></p>		
Timescale	Outputs	Activities
<p>Short Term (0-12 months)</p>	<p>1. PSB organisations to take collective action to shape the local food system across Gwent.</p>	<p>1.1 Establish regular communication channels between existing Food Partnerships and consider feasibility for regional network of Food Partnerships 1.2 Establish a shared communication platform to connect people, projects and partners. 1.3 Facilitate networking events or workshops. 1.4 Review organisational planning documents to identify opportunities for better aligning regional Food objectives and outcomes. 1.5 Work with Future Generations Commissioner to advocate for Welsh Government to develop a long-term food strategy framed within the Well-being of Future Generations Act.</p>

<p>2. Identify gaps and opportunities for cross-sector collaboration / upscaling amongst key food businesses & community food initiatives (e.g. Community Pantries, Cafes & Gardens and Farm to Fork etc.) across Gwent</p>	<p>2.1 Compile a stakeholder list and conduct a stakeholder analysis 2.2 Mapping exercise to identify and build on best practice initiatives and projects to scale up in Gwent (building on existing info from Jan-March 2024). 2.3 Data analysis to identify gaps & collaboration opportunities. 2.4 Reach out to establish connections and explore collaborations.</p>
<p>3. Promote healthy, local and sustainable food provision and consumption across the public sector.</p>	<p>3.1 Stakeholder analysis 3.2 Review public sector food provision contracts (excluding schools, for years 2-3) with a view to working towards a regional public sector approach to procurement of goods and services that promote sustainable, local healthy food supply. 3.3 Strengthen relationships between PSB organisation sustainable food, health, nature, environmental health, catering and procurement teams. 3.4 Identify existing or establish joint working groups for specific cross-cutting Food objectives.</p>
<p>4. Strategic regional approach to Food funding and resources</p>	<p>4.1 Identify any gaps between UKSPF Community & Place, WG Direct Food Support and WG Food Partnership Development grants, to better align across Gwent and avoid duplication. 4.2 Stakeholder analysis to identify local assets and expertise. 4.3 Explore joint funding applications and resource-sharing. 4.4 Establish communication channels for ongoing collaboration.</p>
<p>5. Partnership approach to addressing common Food Insecurity issues across the region</p>	<p>5.1 Stakeholder analysis 5.2 Develop messaging around enhancing the dignity and empowerment of people experiencing food poverty, raising awareness, and challenging stigma, and promoting opportunities for social participation and inclusion. 5.3 Scope opportunity for a regional Food event / conference, taking learning from approaches elsewhere and at a local level. 5.4 Engage stakeholders and advocacy groups for ongoing amplification.</p>

Medium Term (1-3 years)	6. Promote healthy, local and sustainable food provision and consumption across the public sector.	<p>6.1 Assess current school catering practices</p> <p>6.2 Collaborate to align healthier food strategies.</p> <p>6.3 Identify training and resources to catering teams.</p> <p>6.4 Work with schools and early years settings to embed food literacy into learning</p> <p>6.5 Monitor progress and gather feedback for adjustments.</p> <p>6.6 Engage Health Board healthy eating/nutrition teams to support and promote e.g. through Healthy Weight programmes.</p>
	7. Support local food initiatives, promoting healthy eating, growing and cooking skills.	<p>7.1 Convene regional stakeholders to discuss priorities.</p> <p>7.2 Identify existing resources for supporting local food initiatives and consider opportunities for expansion.</p> <p>7.3 Review and align LA food strategy delivery at the regional scale</p> <p>7.4 Foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders.</p> <p>7.5 Consider opportunities to support and scale up community-led initiatives & Food Hubs.</p> <p>7.6 Scoping exercise to identify and promote access to land through allotments, community gardens and Community Supported Agriculture for growing food.</p>
	8. Develop and strengthen the resilience and sustainability of the regional Food sector	<p>8.1 Identify small-scale producers with sustainable practices to promote the reduction of food waste and emissions at the regional scale.</p> <p>8.2 Collaborate on a Gwent strategy for reducing food-related emissions.</p> <p>8.3 Showcase for local food producers across Gwent</p> <p>8.4 Monitor progress and adjust interventions for food system resilience and sustainability.</p>
Long Term (4+ years)	9. Advocate for policy changes to support sustainable food production and access to local nutritious food.	<p>9.1 Research policy gaps and opportunities for sustainable local food production and consumption.</p> <p>9.2 Engage policymakers to advocate for policy changes benefiting Gwent.</p> <p>9.3 Map stakeholders that could potentially support through campaigns.</p> <p>9.4 Identify partnerships with advocacy groups for amplification.</p> <p>9.5 Provide evidence-based recommendations to policymakers.</p>
	10. Monitor and evaluate progress towards achieving food security, healthy eating, and environmental sustainability goals.	<p>10.1 Develop monitoring and evaluation frameworks with clear indicators in line with the Gwent Wellbeing Plan steps.</p> <p>10.2 Collect and centralise data, identifying any gaps to facilitate regular analysis of progression towards food security and access, nutrition, and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>10.3 Engage stakeholders for diverse perspectives in evaluation.</p>

		10.4 Use findings to adjust strategies and interventions. 10.5 Communicate progress and results to stakeholders for transparency.
11. Share best practices and lessons learned with other regions to promote replication and scalability.		11.1 Document and disseminate best practices. 11.2 Facilitate peer learning exchanges. 11.3 Scope potential partnerships and/or community of practice for cross-regional to national collaboration. 11.4 Provide technical assistance to interested regions to support long term systems-planning around food resilience and sustainability. 11.5 Evaluate knowledge-sharing effectiveness and adjust approaches.

What resources are required? (Inputs)
What do we already have at a regional level? What resources or arrangements already exist? Do we need to change anything? Do we require anything new? Who needs to be involved? This is illustrative and will be fully developed in collaboration with partners.

<p>Officers: PSB Member Organisation Officers, LA Officers, Volunteers, Coordinators.</p> <p>Plans: LA / Food Partnership Action Plans / Food Strategies, Future Generations Commissioner’s Cymru Can strategy.</p> <p>Guidance: PHW Food Sense Wales, Sustainable Food Places, Community Food Aid Network, ABUHB healthy eating/nutrition, WG funding criteria</p> <p>Evidence/Data: Wellbeing Assessment, Building A Fairer Gwent</p>	<p>Groups: Community Food Provider Networks, Food Business Forums, Sector-specific Forums</p> <p>Partnerships: LA food resilience, environmental health, environment & nature, and procurement teams. Health Board & LA healthy eating teams. Five individual Food Partnerships and a Gwent Food Resilience Network providing a foundation for collaboration.</p> <p>Case Studies: Community Food Providers e.g. Pantries, Community Cafes, Growing Spaces & Community Gardens etc.</p> <p>Funding: WG Direct Food Support & Food Partnership Development grants, UKSPF Community & Place funding.</p>	<p>To achieve our goals, we may need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen communication and collaboration among stakeholders to create a joint workforce. • Allocate resources towards joint initiatives and pilot projects. • Advocate for policy changes to support sustainable food systems. • Engage with community members and organisations to ensure inclusivity and equity.
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Integration with PSB Areas of Focus

Food represents an opportunity for integration across the Best Start in Life, Economic Chances and Climate-Ready Areas of Focus and aligning a regional approach to Food with the Marmot principles, Building a Fairer Gwent recommendations and Future Generations Commissioner's Cymru Can strategy, not only addressing food insecurity and promoting healthy eating habits but working in partnership with others across four key areas of Food resilience and sustainability.

- Food insecurity & support for community food sector
- Gwent food sector & economy
- Local, healthy, sustainable food production & consumption opportunities
- Enhanced cross-sector partnership working approaches

The outputs & activities actively contribute to enhancing overall well-being, reducing inequalities, and fostering the sustainable development principle in Gwent. Moreover, our efforts resonate with the PSB's environmental sustainability objectives, reinforcing our commitment to building a healthier, more equitable and equal, prosperous and resilient Gwent.