

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority	
Date	17/12/2018	
Lead Officer	Shân Morris, Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate Policy and Planning)	
Contact Officer	Pippa Hardwick, Corporate Planning Manager (01745 535286)	
Subject	Public Services Boards - Update	

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To summarise for Members the progress being made by the four North Wales Public Services Boards (PSBs) towards defining and achieving their first set of adopted well-being objectives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The four North Wales PSBs have published their first well-being assessments and well-being plans for their areas. The PSBs continue to meet regularly and to work through subject sub-groups.
- 3 The well-being plans themselves identify a total of 74 priorities for North Wales that can broadly be grouped under 16 headings.
- 4 In accordance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 PSBs must now work towards achieving their objectives for the purpose of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of pre-defined "well-being goals" for Wales.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5 That Members note the progress being made by the four PSBs in North Wales towards setting and achieving their well-being objectives.

BACKGROUND

- 6 In April 2016, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 established a statutory Public Services Board (PSB) in each local authority area in Wales.

- 7 North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) is a statutory member of every PSB in its area, as is the local authority for the PSB area, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Natural Resources Wales. Under the Act, certain other organisations *must* be invited to take part in the work of the Board and others *may* be invited to do so.
- 8 There are currently four PSBs in North Wales – Wrexham, Flintshire, Conwy and Denbighshire, and Gwynedd and Anglesey. Since March 2016, the Chief Fire Officer has been the Authority’s nominated representative on these PSBs.
- 9 The Act placed a duty on PSBs to: assess the state of well-being in their areas; publish their first well-being assessments in 2017; and their first well-being plans by 3 May 2018, having firstly gone through a number of engagement and approval stages.
- 10 The assessments considered the strengths and assets of local areas, the people and communities living there and the challenges and opportunities for PSBs now and in future. Feedback was sought from local residents, businesses and visitors across the whole of North Wales.
- 11 Using the assessments of well-being, PSBs were required to set local objectives designed to maximise their contribution to achieving the national well-being goals in their areas. Prior to publication the first set of local well-being plans required approval by the individual statutory members and by the PSBs themselves.
- 12 PSBs must take all reasonable steps towards achieving their well-being objectives. Well-being objectives set out in local well-being plans may be the same objectives that public bodies have individually decided to adopt but there may be instances where well-being objectives set by these public bodies are also shared priorities for the area. This is where the PSBs are expected to make the greatest contribution by working collectively to meet objectives but without duplicating good work already taking place within existing partnerships and organisations.

INFORMATION

- 13 Final draft versions of the four local well-being plans were presented to Members in March 2018 and were given the Authority’s approval. No significant changes were made to the well-being plans prior to their publication. These plans are available on the respective PSB’s websites.

- 14 A recent analysis of the four PSB well-being plans revealed a total of 74 priorities for North Wales. These priorities can be grouped under 16 key headings: Community; Housing; Education; Health Education; Health; Responsible Citizens; Well-Being; Environment; Environmental Responsibility; Community Environment Projects; Tourism; Economy; Infrastructure; Skills For Work; Social Prescribing; and Workforce Health.
- 15 Subject areas that all four PSBs have independently identified as areas where they could realistically contribute to making improvement relate to:
- **Health Care:** the physical and practical organisation of Health services.
 - **Health Education:** teaching people of all ages to be resilient and independent in terms of their own well-being, supported by social prescribing and the environment.
 - **Responsible Citizens:** teaching individuals and communities how to be safe, responsible and resilient.
 - **Community Planning:** empowering communities to take responsibility for the development/sustainability of their own communities, which includes community-led projects in support of the environment.
 - **Housing:** access to good quality housing for all.
 - Whilst **Environment and Climate Change** has not necessarily developed as a strong common theme, environmental responsibility and the use of the environment as an enabler to well-being is an underlying theme to be considered. Many consider this to be an area where PSBs have the greatest opportunity to make a difference and the North Wales PSB Network is currently drafting proposals for a Climate Change project, led by Wrexham and Natural Resources Wales.
- 16 All PSBs have been developing actions to address the complex issues identified as priorities within the plans. Working groups have been established to deliver the priorities and workshops have taken place during the summer and autumn to work with partners and communities to develop and agree the next steps. Time-bound work plans have been created and progress is regularly reported back to each PSB.
- 17 Each PSB will be preparing and publishing an annual progress report no later than 14 months after the publication of its first local well-being plan. This is intended to enable it to report on the full year's activity. The report must set out the steps taken since the publication of the most recent local well-being plan to meet the objectives contained within that plan.

- 18 A copy of each annual progress report published by PSBs must be sent to the local authority's overview and scrutiny committee as well as to the Welsh Ministers, the Well-being of Future Generations Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	No direct implication for the achievement of the Authority's own well-being objectives – the local well-being plans relate to the four North Wales PSBs' well-being objectives. None of the priorities relates directly to the provision of fire and rescue services.
Budget	No known implications at present but it is possible that some financial contributions will be sought for collaborative projects through the PSBs.
Legal	Supports compliance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
Staffing	No known impact on staffing levels, but it is possible that planning and delivering the well-being objectives will involve North Wales Fire and Rescue Service resources.
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	No implications identified but the impact of specific actions will be assessed separately.
Risks	As a statutory Member of four PSBs delivering four local well-being plans comprising 74 identified priorities, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service could potentially struggle to maintain an appropriate level of active involvement.