

Report of Deputy Clerk, Caldicot Town Council

20.8.18 Meeting with Mon CC regarding Well-being Plan

[In attendance: MCC officers and Town Councils – Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow, Monmouth]

One of the responsibilities of the Well-being of Future Generations Act is for the Public Service Board to prepare and publish a wellbeing plan and wellbeing objectives for the county. The Well-being Plan, which was signed off by the Public Service Board in April 2018, looks at the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county - [Monmouthshire PSB Wellbeing Plan](#).

The Act puts an emphasis on Town and Community Councils in Wales (over a certain precept) to report on how they are working towards the objectives of the plan.

Caldicot Town Council are legally required to formulate a plan, which will link with the aims and objectives of the Monmouthshire Wellbeing plan, these were identified as:



Well-being Objective - Respond to the challenges associated with demographic change

- Exploring the potential to develop good relationships between people of different ages.
- Focusing on well-being and looking after each other rather than just formal care provision
- Developing networks for all ages that support people's well-being in their local communities
- Ensuring suitable and affordable housing is available to people of all ages
- Promoting active citizenship, like volunteering and time-banking.



Well-being Objective - Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life

- Tackling the causes of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the perpetuation of generational problems in families.
- Working to tackle physical inactivity and obesity in order to increase the health and well-being of future generations
- Working to ensure that schools and services for children focus on well-being and a more rounded approach than purely academic results.
- Supporting the resilience of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional wellbeing.



Well-being Objective - Protect and enhance the resilience of our natural environment whilst mitigating and adapting to the impact of climate change

- Improving the resilience of ecosystems by working at a larger scale (landscape) to manage biodiversity and maximise benefits such as natural flood risk management
- Ensuring design and planning policy supports strong, vibrant and healthy communities that are good for people and the environment.
- Enabling renewable energy schemes, especially community-owned schemes, and developing new solutions including storage, smart energy, heat and local supply.
- Enabling active travel and sustainable transport to improve air quality and give other health benefits.
- Working with children and young people to improve their awareness, understanding and action for sustainable development and make them responsible global citizens of the future.



Well-being Objective - Develop opportunities for communities and businesses to be part of an economically thriving and well-connected county.

- Maximising opportunities for Monmouthshire as part of the City Deal
- Better understanding the future of work and ensure training and education links with business to identify the skills needed in the Monmouthshire workforce now and in the future
- Developing new technologies for improving rural transport
- Facilitate better business networking to share knowledge and access to technology and regional opportunities to enable businesses to grow
- Exploring the potential for specialist centres of excellence in Monmouthshire e.g. food/hospitality, agriculture, tourism and technology

Expertise of Mon CC officers can be utilised to assist Caldicot Town Council in formulating the plan and identifying how the objectives will be addressed, the department has a varied wealth of knowledge:

- Volunteering and getting community behind objectives, community volunteers programme
 - Engaging community groups
 - Colleague volunteering pilot
 - 1700 volunteers – specific priority and use of volunteers for project
 - 16+ partnership, getting people into work experience
- Children and Young People and Armed Forces
 - Armed forces, community covenant, supporting veterans and children
 - CYP 0-25 – mental health support, signposting to access
 - Loneliness and isolation – intergenerational
- Creating an active and healthy Monmouthshire
 - Childhood obesity
 - Drawing together the relevant people
 - Financial and economic digital inclusion partnership (incl. anti-poverty strategy)
 - Supporting and stimulating activity
 - Existing community initiatives
 - S106 changing contributions – working with Town and Community Councils for projects/aspirations that will contribute to development

In obtaining funds, there would be a requirement to demonstrate community need and evidence for desire
- 50+ agenda and partnership ageing well
 - Stroke unit, elder abuse, transport
 - Loneliness and isolation strategy
 - Dementia awareness and training
 - Lead officer for democracy
- Community Safety Coordination
 - CCTV
 - ASBO
 - Exploitation (crime and children)
 - Domestic abuse
- Crime prevention panels across 5 areas
- Community Cohesion - Terrorism/slavery/radicalisation

The PSB have not defined any specific activities for Town and Community Councils to undertake, instead Town and Community Councils have been engaged at the preliminary stages, in order to devise well-being plans for the respective communities.

A wellbeing assessment for Severnside and surrounding areas was undertaken (summary Appendix 1). The plan would be a working document, which will be continually monitored and updated by Caldicot Town Council, a suggested template is attached (Appendix 2).

Consider: Caldicot Town Council are required to decide on how it will progress with developing a plan and whether assistance would be required from Mon CC officers.

Severnside

The area includes Caldicot, Rogiet, Magor and Undy, and has the mainline railway and the M4 motorway. The landscape along the coastal zone is primarily flat, with productive agricultural land, bounded by traditional drainage channels called reens to drain the low-lying land, protected from coastal flooding by a flood bank. The land rises to the north to a series of low hills before rising further towards Wentwood.

Severnside has extensive environmental assets, some of which benefit from international protection, and habitats include marine, freshwater, species rich grassland and ancient woodland. The Severn Estuary is of international importance for wintering and passage waterfowl, saltmarshes, exposed sand banks, fish feeding areas and unusually large natural tidal range which influences the species that occur here. The Gwent Levels support many important species and the Living Levels project aims to preserve and protect them.

Wildlife in the area is threatened by housing and infrastructure development, and climate change increases the risk of coastal flooding should flood defences fail or be overtopped. Rising sea levels are also a threat to the saltmarshes and mudflats as they are squeezed against sea defences.

There are limited accessible green spaces in the area, and urban tree cover and the benefits that brings, is very low. There are a few small voluntary groups working to improve local environmental quality in Caldicot.

Severnside has the second highest proportion of the population declaring themselves as Christian (62.2%) as well as the lowest proportion of those stating they are of a religion other than Christian (1.1%). Figures show that 98.5% of the population is of white ethnicity.

Severnside is one of two areas with Welsh medium education, with Ysgol Gymraeg y Ffin located in Caldicot. This could be one of the reasons why the figures for Welsh language within Monmouthshire are the highest, 11.2% of the population of Severnside stated that they were able to speak Welsh as well as 8.3% saying they could speak, read and write in Welsh.

When we spoke to people about well-being for this assessment parks and recreation and leisure services were one of the most commonly mentioned topics with some feeling the leisure services and parks are good while others feel the area could be improved if there was more choice and better equipment in parks and leisure/ sport facilities in the area.

Severnside has the largest proportion of working age residents and the lowest proportion of people aged 65.

Three of the 11 most deprived areas in Monmouthshire are located within Severnside, they are West End, part of Severn and part of Dewstow and Green Lane. The main category of deprivation for each is the physical environment which covers air quality and emissions, proximity to waste disposal and industrial sites and flood risk. Flying Start is available to some families in West End. On average, travel times to a number of services are shorter when compared to other areas in Monmouthshire and are more in line with the Wales average.

Severnside has a low proportion of people in receipt of income related benefits and in income deprivation when compared with the Monmouthshire and Wales averages. However even within these areas this can mask particular pockets. For example the proportion of people experiencing income deprivation ranges from just 3% in The Elms to 18% in West End and Dewstow.

Headline rates of educational attainment at a school level also mask differences that become apparent when shown as the very local level, for example the percentage of pupils getting 5 good GCSEs including English or Welsh and Maths differed by more than 30 percentage points within the Severnside area ranging from 48.6% in Dewstow to 81.05% for the Elms. These highlight the importance of place when considering responses to societal challenges.

81% of people in Severnside report good or very good health but again variations are notable, ranging from 75% in Dewstow to 89% in The Elms. Parts of Dewstow & Green Lane have the highest rates of people living with long term limiting illness in Severnside. Dewstow also sees the highest rates of cancer incidence in the Severnside area.

There was a significant increase in recorded crime in Caldicot during 2015/16, Severn ward in particular saw an increase of 91%. Green Lane had the highest number ASB incidents in the Severnside area during 2015/16. An increase in ASB was noted in Portskewett but a decrease in Dewstow.

The overall vacancy rate of shopping outlets had declined steadily between the 2000 and 2007, however since then there has been an increase, with the rate at 7.6% in 2015. The total average pedestrian flow in Caldicot had remained fairly constant up until 2012 however since then there has been a decline in the average flow. During our engagement with residents of Severnside many felt improvements were needed in the town centre.

Objective 1:

Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life

5 ways of working

- **Long Term** – The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- **Prevention** – How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- **Integration** – considering how the public body’s well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their objective, or on the objectives of other public bodies
- **Collaboration** – Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
- **Involvement** – The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

Description of Project	Action	Lead Person / Agency	How Much / How Often	How Well?
Tackling the causes of ACEs and the perpetuation of generational problems in families				
Working to tackle physical inactivity and obesity in order to increase the health and well-being of future generations				
Working to ensure that schools and services for children focus on well-being and a more rounded approach than purely academic results				
Supporting the reliance of children and young people in relation to their mental health and emotional wellbeing				

