

**Report To:** Conwy & Denbighshire PSB

Date of Meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Lead Member / Officer:** Bethan Jones, Area Director for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

and PSB chair (April 2016 to June 2019)

Iwan Davies, Chief Executive for Conwy County Borough Council and PSB

Vice chair (April 2016 to June 2019)

Sian Williams, Head of North Wales Operations for Natural Resources

Wales and PSB Chair (from June 2019 onwards)

Judith Greenhalgh, Chief Executive for Denbighshire County Council and

PSB Vice Chair (from June 2019 onwards)

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Title: Conwy and Denbighshire PSB annual report 2018-19

## 1. What is the report about?

1.1 The 2018/19 annual report provides an overview of what the Board has achieved since the well-being plan was published in April 2018 (please see appendix A). It is important that the PSB is accountable to the public and this report helps the PSB to self-reflect on where they feel they are making a difference, in line with the 5 ways of working as well as outlining the Board's future direction.

## 2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 In line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) 2015 Act, the Conwy and Denbighshire PSB are required to prepare and publish an annual report no later than 14 months after the publication of its first local well-being plan. This is intended to enable the board to report on the full year's activity.
- 2.2 The 2018/19 annual report was presented to the inaugural joint PSB scrutiny committee on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, in line with the committees' statutory duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. Feedback on the annual report is provided in section 4.

## 3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That members consider the feedback provided by the joint PSB scrutiny committee.
- 3.2 That members approve the Conwy and Denbighshire PSB 2018/19 Annual Report for publication.

## 4. Report Details

- 4.1 The guidance provided for the Act specifies that the annual report must detail the activity the Board has taken to meet the objectives set out in their well-being plan. However the report can also include any other information the Board thinks would be appropriate. Therefore the report also outlines -
  - The process taken to develop both the well-being assessment and plan, including the consultation undertaken through the County Conversation and how the PSB engaged with stakeholders to identify the Board's priority areas;
  - Progress against the interim priorities (communication and first 1000 days);
  - The Boards reflections after year 1;
  - Where we've worked collaboratively;
  - How we've been challenged: and
  - How people can get involved.
- 4.2 The Board are required to send a copy of their annual report to Welsh Ministers, the Future Generations Commissioner, the Auditor General for Wales and the Boards designated overview and scrutiny committee.
- 4.3 The 2018/19 annual report was presented to the inaugural joint PSB scrutiny committee on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and the feedback was as follows:
  - Members queried the delay in progressing the homelessness and unstable tenancies action under the community empowerment priority, as they are aware funding has been made available to local authorities to specific support homelessness. Officers confirmed that there had been new changes in terms of housing legislation which had put pressure on Local Authorities. In terms of Denbighshire, they wanted to ensure the current process was correct before working with partner organisations, which had delayed progress.
  - Members recognised that there would be many things that could be shared between the both counties. A particular concern was the need to consider the effects and benefits for both counties of developments along the county border areas. Members were advised that both authorities have been in discussion with each other during the development of the Local Development Plan (LDP), ensuring both LDPs are aware of each other's County border concerns.
  - Members agreed that Conwy and Denbighshire should be working together on a number of issue. Flooding was a major concern for both Counties and more work could be done collaboratively. Bodelwyddan having been identified in the North Wales Growth Bid as a development area had the potential to cause issues for both Denbighshire and Conwy. The PSB had recommended boards work regionally on the flood risk situation. Gwynedd and Anglesey are collaborating on a flooding and climate change the findings of this work will be shared regionally.

- Members enquired what added benefits the PSB would bring to the people, also how the PSB could influence other services/organisations to assist. Members were advised that that the priority areas were developed jointly, but acknowledged that ensuring other services/organisations deliver their commitment can be challenging as their governance arrangements were different to those of local authorities. Challenging senior officials of partner organisations on their commitment to delivering the PSB's priorities and plans was the Committee's role.
- Members highlighted the fact that the plans for Wylfa Nuclear Power Station would not go ahead, therefore the PSB should look at how it can support the green energy agenda.
   Denbighshire and its neighbouring counties had potential for hydropower schemes therefore that could be something the PSB could be involved with and encourage.
   Members were advised that there may be potential in exploring community green energy schemes going forward.
- Members commented on how they felt the PSB could pull together and make things happen. They highlighted that there were plenty of subjects where there were issues that would benefit from being addressed jointly. Officers advised that whilst the PSB did not have its own dedicated budget its benefit was around building relationships and increasing levels of trust to enable projects to be delivered and in doing so maximising the impact and benefits of those projects for all.
- Members were reminded that the PSB was conscious of ensuring that it did not replicate
  ideas or changes that other services/organisation had already implemented. The PSB
  would look at work that had not been achieved in the past and assess whether a joint
  partnership approach would be able to deliver it.
- Members praised the statistics on animals and the environment as it is an area that needs more attention. They also queried the statistics from the County Conversation as the ages and subject had a massive difference between each county.
- The scrutiny committee endorsed the annual report. Members supported the progress made to date while recognising there is further work needed to deliver the priorities.