



REPORT TO: Conwy and Denbighshire Public Services Board

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SUBJECT: Procuring Well-being in Wales - A Review into how the Well-being of Future Generations Act is informing procurement in Wales and an offer of support from the Centre of Local Economic Strategies.

1. What is the report about?

The report by the Well-being of Future Generations (WFG) Commissioner's Office in respect of their review into procuring Well-being in Wales, and an offer from the Centre of Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and Welsh Government (WG) for Conwy and Denbighshire PSB to participate in its programme to access the expertise and support to explore community wealth building approaches, with a focus on progressive procurement.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

Though the report is aimed at public bodies, because the PSB is largely comprised of public bodies, and because Denbighshire County Council was subject to the review, it's prudent for PSB to consider the WFG Commissioner's recommendations together with CLES's offer of support.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That the Committee considers the detail within the report and the offer of support from CLES, and whether it would like to participate in the programme.

4. Report details

- 4.1 The Commissioners' report is attached at Appendix 1. It contains specific recommendations both for Welsh Government (p39) and public bodies (p44). There are 3 recommendations for public bodies, paraphrased as:

- a) Better identify opportunities for maximising the social, economic, cultural and environmental impact of procurement;
- b) Shift the emphasis to better consideration of long-term outcomes associated with procurement, rather than the current focus on process and short-term costs of contracts.

c) Public Bodies could collaborate more effectively to share learning, capacity & skills.

4.2 Details of the offer of support from CLES are contained in Appendix 2. Discussions about the practical arrangements, opportunities for collaboration, and where CLES might add value have begun with colleagues in Conwy & Denbighshire, but are still in progress. A verbal update will be provided at PSB, due to report deadlines being prior to meeting dates. It should be noted that CLES are funded by WG up to December 2021, so there is a time pressure.

5. How does the decision contribute to the PSB Priorities?

This work should support the public bodies who are members of PSB to secure wider and long-term well-being benefits from their procurement activity. There is an idea in place to marry the offer of support from CLES with the PSB's environmental objective of contributing to carbon output reductions, though discussions are at an early stage and a verbal update will be provided at PSB.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The offer of support from CLES is funded by WG, but will require capacity commitment from public bodies' procurement colleagues in order to deliver an effective project in line with the funding end date of December 2021.