



Report to	Conwy and Denbighshire Public Service Boards (PSB)
Date of meeting	Wednesday 23 rd March, 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Amanda Jones, Corporate Improvement & Development Manager, Conwy County Borough Council and Emma Horan, Strategic Planning and Performance Officer, Denbighshire County Council
Report author	Hannah Edwards PSB Support Officer, Conwy County Borough Council
Title	Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment 2022 – Approval for publication

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. To provide an overview of the responses received to the well-being assessment consultation and seek approval for publishing the Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board's (PSB's) Well-being Assessment 2022 (produced in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To seek approval to publish the well-being assessment prior to the statutory deadline of 5th May 2022.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 To approve the well-being assessment for publication.
- 3.2 To note the feedback and recommendations received to the consultation and for officers to address these over the next 3 months.

3.3 To consider how the PSB ensure the well-being assessment is utilised in future and is part of decision making processes.

4. Report details

4.1. Work has been on-going with PSB partners across Conwy and Denbighshire since January 2021 to review the existing Conwy & Denbighshire PSB Well-being Assessment.

4.2. In line with statutory deadlines, the consultation on the well-being assessment took place for a period of 8 weeks, from January 2022 to March 2022. The consultation asked the following questions -

- i. Do you think that the information presented within the Well-being Assessment is accurate?
- ii. Do you feel there is anything that needs to change within the Well-being Assessment?
- iii. Do you feel there is anything missing that should be included within the Well-being Assessment?
- iv. How do you see this resource being of use to you?

4.3. The consultation was promoted through a press release, social media (which was shared with PSB partner organisations) and circulated to both statutory and non-statutory consultees, including –

- The Future Generations Commissioner
- Conwy & Denbighshire PSB Members and Officers
- Other partners e.g. Snowdonia National Park Authority and the Arts Council
- Joint Conwy & Denbighshire PSB Scrutiny Committee
- Relevant third sector organisations
- Members of the public
- Local Businesses
- Trade Unions
- City, Town and Community Councils
- Conwy & Denbighshire Partnerships
- North Wales wide partnerships e.g. RPB and NWEAB

4.4. In total, 16 responses were received -

- 10 via the online survey (including response from Snowdonia National Park Authority)
- Written response from Welsh Government (please see appendix A)
- Conwy & Denbighshire PSB Joint Scrutiny & Overview Committee (please see appendix B and paragraph 5.1 for further detail)
- Written response from the Future Generations Commissioner (please see appendix C)
- Written response from partners and groups, including Natural Resources Wales and Public Health Wales and Clwyd River Catchment Forum

4.5. The majority of responses agreed with the well-being assessments findings and indicated they were likely to make use of the assessment, with further comments provided including –

- No mention of current household pressures, including rising fuel costs.
- More focus needed on demographic issues, e.g. rising ageing population and low birth rate.
- Improved engagement with the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.
- More consideration needed on sustainable tourism, particularly in relation to current climate challenges.
- Include reference to current alcohol strategies
- Assessment would benefit from being in plain English.
- Lack of reference to people sleeping rough.

4.6 Welsh Government have suggested a few areas for improvement (see full response in Appendix A), including -

Category A	These are significant issues which WG would hope would be addressed prior to publication of the well-being assessment.
If not already included, reference to the following reviews and assessments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sufficiency of Nursery education provision review	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficiency of play opportunities assessment • Combating Substance Misuse strategic assessment • Strategic Assessment relating to the Reduction of Reoffending
Category B	These are matters which are important and would support a better informed well-being plan and we would hope could be addressed alongside the development of the plan.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detail on various means of engagement • More of an explanation as to why Covid is creating evidence gaps • More detail on the statement of well-being in each of the community areas throughout the whole PSB area and comparisons between them.
Category C	These are matters which would strengthen the assessment but could be addressed over time.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the accessibility and user-friendliness of the assessment (see Structure and Format paragraph).

4.7 PSB support officer have met to consider the feedback and develop a plan to prioritise and address the feedback over the coming months.

4.8 Work is also taking place with Glyndwr University to develop an infographic version of the well-being assessments for North Wales. This will provide a general introduction to the well-being assessments and include a summary of the key issues and themes identified in each of the four well-being assessment across North Wales. It is expected this work will be completed in early May 2022.

5. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

5.1 The well-being assessment was presented to the Conwy and Denbighshire PSB Joint Scrutiny and Overview committee as part of the consultation process. Overall the committee agreed with the findings of the assessment but requested that the following recommendation be consider by the PSB -

Recommend that the PSB, including its members and partner organisations, utilise all their procurement powers as local as possible in a bid to secure maximum emphasis on employment, reduce carbon footprint in line with local and national goals, support local well-being and help sustain the Welsh language and culture.

6. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

- 6.1. There is a risk that this valuable resource isn't used to its full potential by partners. We will therefore devise a programme of publicity to ensure colleagues from all sectors are aware of the Assessment and where to find it, and how it can aid informed decision-making.
- 6.2. There is a risk that this is not kept up-to-date by partners, thus undermining the site's usefulness, and also meaning that a large scale review will be required in the future. Regular communication between PSB support officers, supported with clear direction from the PSB should mitigate against this risk.

Since the production of the first Well-being Assessment in 2017 research capacity within teams in both Conwy and Denbighshire has significantly reduced. Despite this the teams have produced a high quality strategic document on the current position of both counties. If there were more research and engagement capacity in the public sector, there would be the potential to further strengthen the Assessment by looking into weaker areas and any gaps in knowledge, and better understanding the determinants of inequality in terms of well-being.

- 6.3. There is potential for PSBs to consider a regional approach to research, data and analysis which could potentially mitigate this risk.

7. Power to make the decision

- 7.1. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015