

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	19 March 2018
Lead Officer	Shân Morris, Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate Policy & Planning)
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Subject	Approval of draft local well-being plans of the North Wales Public Services Boards



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To present for approval the draft local well-being plans of the four North Wales Public Services Boards (PSBs).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 placed a duty on PSBs to prepare and publish their first local well-being plans by 3 May 2018.
- 3 Before these local well-being plans can be published they must be approved by the individual statutory members of the PSBs that prepared them, and also by the PSBs themselves.
- 4 This report therefore presents for approval by North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority the draft local well-being plans of the PSBs of: Gwynedd and Môn; Conwy and Denbighshire; Flintshire; and Wrexham (Appendix 1).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5 That members approve for publication the draft local well-being plan of:
 - (i) Gwynedd and Môn PSB;
 - (ii) Conwy and Denbighshire PSB;
 - (iii) Flintshire PSB; and
 - (iv) Wrexham PSB.
- 6 In the event that any of the draft local well-being plans listed above are amended after approval by the Authority but before being published by the PSB, members authorise the Chief Fire Officer to decide on behalf of the Authority whether the amendments are of sufficient significance as to require re-presentation to the Authority for further consideration.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

7 This report has not previously been considered by Members.

BACKGROUND

- 8 In April 2016, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 established a PSB in each local authority area in Wales. These PSBs are required to act jointly to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their areas by contributing to the achievement of pre-defined national “well-being goals”.
- 9 PSBs comprise a statutory membership of four organisations - the local authority, the local health board, the fire and rescue authority and Natural Resources Wales.
- 10 PSBs must invite the Welsh Ministers, the Chief Constable, the police and crime commissioner, certain probation services and at least one body representing relevant voluntary organisations in their area to participate in the work of the board but without becoming statutory members.
- 11 PSBs may also decide to invite other organisations that exercise functions of a public nature to participate in the work of the board, again without becoming statutory members.
- 12 The Act makes provision for two or more PSBs to either merge or to collaborate with each other if they consider that doing so would help them to contribute to achieving the well-being goals. Gwynedd and Anglesey PSBs have opted to collaborate without merging; Conwy and Denbighshire PSBs have opted to merge; Flintshire PSB and Wrexham PSB have retained separate boards.
- 13 The Act requires each PSB to produce a local well-being plan that sets out how it proposes to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area. Each PSB must also set local objectives that are designed to maximise its contribution to achieving the national well-being goals in its area, and take all reasonable steps to achieve them.
- 14 During the first two years since being established, the PSBs have been required to:
- a) prepare and publish by 3 May 2017 an assessment of the state of its area's economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being; and to
 - b) prepare and publish by 3 May 2018 a local well-being plan for its area setting out local objectives and the steps it proposes to take to meet them.

INFORMATION

- 15 Following an intensive period of information gathering, public engagement, meetings and workshops, the four North Wales PSBs published their well-being assessments as planned in 2017. Feedback was sought from local residents, businesses and visitors, and copies were sent as required by the Act to the Welsh Ministers, the Well-being of Future Generations Commissioner, the Auditor General for Wales and the local authority's overview and scrutiny committee.
- 16 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. The intelligence gathered then informed further discussions with stakeholders to identify common themes that the PSB members could influence by working together. Each PSB used these themes to develop their objectives for the local well-being plans.
- 17 The attached draft local well-being plans (Appendix 1) represent the culmination of two years of work by the four PSBs in North Wales. These plans must be published by 3 May 2018, but before they can be published they must be approved by all four statutory partners and by the PSBs themselves.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	No direct implication on 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.
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 NWFRS resources.
Equalities/Human Rights/Welsh Language	No implications identified but the impact of specific actions will be assessed separately.
Risks	With four PSBs to attend, and four local well-being plans to deliver, the Service could potentially struggle to maintain an appropriate level of involvement. If any of the statutory members of the PSBs decide at this stage not to approve the local well-being plans there is a risk that the statutory deadline for publishing the well-being plans will be missed.