

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee- Partnerships

Part 1

Date: 10 July 2019

Subject **Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2018-19**

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

| Invitee: | Designation |
|-----------------|---|
| Phil Diamond | Regional Partnership Board Regional Team |
| James Harris | Strategic Director - People |

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1. Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked:

- a) To consider the Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2018-19 and evaluate progress against the Board's strategic priorities;
- b) To determine whether it wishes to make any comments to the Regional Partnership Board.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act places a statutory duty on Local Authorities and Health Boards to produce a Regional Area Plan setting out how the priorities identified in the statutory regional population needs assessment (PNA) in relation to people requiring care and support, will be delivered in partnership and through integrated working.
- 2.2 The Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) was established to deliver this Welsh Government (WG) Legislation across the Gwent footprint to discharge the duties within the Act for the five Gwent Local Authorities and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB). The RPB is required to prepare and publish a plan setting out the range and level of services it proposes to provide, in response to the population needs assessment. Area Plans must include the specific services planned in response to each core theme identified in the population assessment.
- 2.3 The Committee received the Regional Area Plan 2018-2019 as an Information Report last year. *(A link to the Plan is included in Section 7 of this report in the Background Papers for Members' information.*
- 2.4 Subsequently the Committee at its meeting on 3 April 2019 also considered a Summary Update upon the 2018-19 Regional Area Plan, which included Action Plans for each of the following Core Themes:
- Children and Young People;
 - Older People;
 - Health and Physical Disabilities
 - Mental Health;
 - Learning Disability;
 - Sensory Loss and Impairment;
 - Carers;
 - Autism.

(A link to the Agenda and Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 3 April 2019 is included in Section 7 of this report in the Background Papers for Members' information.)

- 2.5 The Partnership Arrangements Regulations require Regional Partnership Boards to prepare a report on the extent to which the board's objectives have been achieved, which must be submitted to Welsh Ministers annually.
- 2.6 The report must be published and should include:
- Members of the Regional Partnership Board.
 - Information on how the board has met its objectives, including relevant supporting management information (e.g. financial and other progress reports).
 - Details of the partnership arrangements in place to respond to the joint population assessment and priority areas, including any supporting groups or structures.
 - How the board has engaged directly with service users, or groups representing service users (e.g. citizen panels).
 - Information on how the partnership arrangements have contributed to improved outcomes and delivery of services to respond to the joint population assessment and priority areas (including information on how resources have been effectively utilised).

- Information on the statutory provision used - e.g. Section 33 agreement (NHS (Wales) Act 2006), or informal arrangement underpinned by a written agreement.

(A link to the Welsh Government Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014: Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements) is included in Section 7 of this report in the Background Papers for Members' information.)

2.7 The Committee is requested to consider the statutory Annual Report 2018-19 required by Welsh Government in Appendix A and assess the progress against the Board's strategic priorities:

- Dementia Friendly Communities;
- Adverse Childhood Experiences;
- Mental Health Employment;
- Learning Disabilities;
- Young Carers;
- Mental Health;
- Autism

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

3.1.1 The following is attached to for the Committee's consideration:

Appendix A - Regional Partnership Board Annual report 2018-19

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

4.1 Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Assess how effectively the Regional Partnership Board has performed against the Strategic Priorities reported in its Annual Report 2018-19;
- Assess and make comment on:
 - The progress being made by the Regional Partnership in delivering the strategic priorities;
 - How effectively the Regional Partners worked together in collaboration to deliver the strategic priorities to date;
 - What mitigating actions have been put in place to address risks and not achieving strategic priorities;
 - What barriers are there to delivering the strategic priorities;
 - What specific projects or programmes are being delivered by the Transformation Fund in Newport?
- In drawing its conclusions, the Committee should assess:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the delivery of the Board's Strategic Priorities?
 - Does the Committee wish to make any Comments to the Partnership Board upon the progress of delivering the strategic priorities in the Annual Report and views for improvement?
 - What future scrutiny activity should be undertaken?

4.2 Suggested Lines of Enquiry

In evaluating the delivery of the Regional Partnership Board's Strategic Priorities in its Annual Report 2018-19, the Committee may wish to explore some of the following areas of focus, which have been adapted from the Welsh Government Guidance on Scrutiny of the Public Services Board:

1. To what extent has the Board's strategic priorities been delivered within the timescales specified?
How much progress has been made towards delivery of the strategic priorities reported in the Annual Report? How far have the Regional Partnership's expectations been met?
2. How effectively has the Regional Partnership worked together to achieve its strategic priorities? What lessons have been learned as a result of progress to date and how will they be fed back?
3. What have been the resource implications of delivering on the strategic priorities? How has working as a partnership maximised the resources available?
4. How has delivery as a partnership impacted on the delivery of the strategic priorities in line with the five ways of working from the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act? What difference has working in partnership made to delivery?
5. What unintended consequences have arisen from delivering the strategic priorities? What are the main factors that have impacted upon delivery?
6. How is service user experience being used to assess performance of the Partnership Board's delivery? What other methods are being used to evaluate effectiveness and impact of the strategic priorities in the Annual Report?

4.3 Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act

The Committee's consideration of the Regional Partnership Board's Annual Report 2018-19 should consider how the Partnership is maximising its contribution to the five ways of working. The following are examples of the types of questions to consider:

| 5 Ways of Working | Types of Questions to consider: |
|--|--|
| Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs. | What long-term trends have impacted upon the delivery of the Partnership's Strategic Priorities? |
| | How have changes in long-term needs impacted upon the delivery of the Board's Strategic Priorities? |
| Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse. | What issues are facing the Partnership Board's service users at the moment? |
| | How is the Partnership Board addressing these issues to prevent a future problem? |
| Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies. | Are there any other organisations providing similar / complementary services? |
| | How does the Partnership Board's performance upon the delivery of their Strategic Priorities impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives? |
| Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself). | Who has the Partnership Board been working with to deliver the Strategic Priorities ? |
| | How has the Partnership used knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence delivery of the Strategic Priorities? |
| 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. | How has the Partnership sought the views of those who are impacted by the delivery of the Strategic Priorities? |
| | How has the Partnership taken into account diverse communities in decision making? |

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Characteristics of Effective Partnership Scrutiny set out in the Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards issued by Welsh Government in August 2017 can equally be applied to the scrutiny of other Partnerships and states that:

“Research into the practice of collaborative or joint scrutiny in England and Wales identifies that arrangements are effective when they demonstrate the following characteristics:

Characteristics of effective partnership scrutiny:

- Scrutiny regards itself as a form of ‘critical friendship with positive intent’ in which scrutiny practitioners act as advocates for the success of joint working.
- Collaborative performance is evaluated from the citizen’s perspective.
- Strong efforts are made to understand the complexity of partnership arrangements and to facilitate learning about the culture and assumptions of different organizations.
- Scrutiny creates positive expectations by focussing on issues regarded as useful to the partnership or where there is consensus that ‘things need to change’.
- Scrutiny demonstrates intellectual independence and investigative rigour in all of its activities.
- Scrutiny demonstrates a positive impact by developing clear, timely, evidence-based recommendations aimed at enhancing collaborative performance.
- Scrutiny critically evaluates its own performance utilising partnership perspectives.

(A link to the full Welsh Government Guidance is included in Section 7 of this report in the Background Papers for Members’ information.)

6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- Newport City Council’s Corporate Plan and Wellbeing Objectives:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Well-being Objectives | Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment | Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities | Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient | Build cohesive & sustainable communities |
| Corporate Plan Commitments | Thriving City | Aspirational People | | Resilient Communities |
| Supporting Function | Modernised Council | | | |

7 Background Papers

- [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014: Part 9 Statutory Guidance \(Partnership Arrangements\)](#)
- [Report and Minute](#) of Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships on 3 April 2019
- [Regional Area Plan 2018-19](#) - Gwent Regional Partnership Board
- Gwent Regional Partnership Board [Website](#)
- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Welsh Government Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the Scrutiny of Public Services Boards](#) (Issued August 2017)
- [Corporate Plan 2017-22](#)

Report Completed: June 2019