

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 26 September 2019

Subject Corporate Plan Annual Report 2018/19

Author Scrutiny Adviser

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

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Councillor Debbie Wilcox	Leader of Newport City Council
Will Godfrey	Chief Executive
Bev Owen	Strategic Director – Place
James Harris	Strategic Director – People

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to consider:

1. The Council's progress towards achieving its promise to **Improve People's Lives** in Newport.
2. Whether the Corporate Plan Annual Report contains sufficient information to monitor the achievement of the four Wellbeing Goals and 20 Commitments.
3. Whether it wishes to provide comment and recommendations on the Corporate Plan Annual Report to Cabinet.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The 2018-19 Annual Report outlines the progress Newport City Council has made so far in delivering the Corporate Plan 2017-22. This is the second year of reporting progress against the plan, and the first year of scrutiny from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, and this report reflects the achievements made in the year, where decisions made have been learned from and what will be delivered in 2019/20 and beyond.

The Corporate Plan introduces the Council's four Wellbeing Objectives and related steps to achievement (Corporate Plan pages 40 – 46):

- To improve skills, education and employment opportunities
- To promote economic growth and regeneration while protecting the environment
- To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient
- To build cohesive and sustainable communities

In the Corporate Plan the four Wellbeing Objectives are linked to three **Corporate Action Plans** (Corporate Plan Page 26):

- **Resilient Communities** (To build cohesive and sustainable communities)
- **Thriving City** (To promote economic growth and regeneration while protecting the environment)
- **Aspirational people** (To improve skills, education and employment opportunities and to be healthy, independent and resilient)

The Corporate Plan introduces **Modernised Council** as the overarching supporting function for the three Corporate Action Plans.

The **Modernised Council** and the three **Corporate Action Plans** are made up of **20 Commitments**. These 20 commitments are outlined on page 28 - 34 of the Corporate Plan.

- 2.2 The Committee requested that the Leader and Officers provide an annual report on the performance of the Corporate Plan to the Committee at their meeting held on the [28 September 2017](#). At this meeting the Committee made a number of recommendations that were followed up by the Committee at their meeting on the [20 December 2018](#).
- 2.3 At the meeting on the 28 September 2017 the Committee expressed concern regarding how easy the Corporate Plan would be to monitor. The performance of the Council at an operational level is scrutinised by the Performance Scrutiny Committee - People and the Performance Scrutiny Committee – Place and Corporate, which receive Mid-Year and End of Year Service Plan Updates for monitoring from each of the service areas.

Each Service Area has set a Service Plan from 2018 – 2022, in line with the Corporate Plan timescale and approved by the relevant Cabinet Member. These Service Plans contain:

- Service Plan Objectives;
- Planned Actions for each Objective for the year and the subsequent years for the life of the plan;
- Performance indicators; which include National and Locally set performance Measures;
- Resources and Risk.

The Operational and Service Area specific monitoring carried out through Service Plan scrutiny for the People Committee is available [here](#) and Place and Corporate is available [here](#). (Dates of meetings and date specific hyperlinks are presented in section 7 of this report.)

The Corporate Plan Annual Report is presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for a **strategic overview** to work alongside the performance monitoring completed by other Committees.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

3.1 **Appendix 1** – Newport City Council Annual Report 2018 / 19

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

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

Question the Leader of the Council and the Senior Leadership Team on the progress towards achieving the promise to **Improve People's Lives** in Newport set out in the Corporate Plan 2017 - 2022.

- Take a backward look at how well the Council has performed in 2018/19 against its 20 commitments in the Corporate Plan 2017 - 22;
- To assess whether the steps to achieving the four Wellbeing Objectives are being undertaken, to what extent and where the evidence for this is;
- Assess and make comment on:
 - How effectively the Council are performing against the four wellbeing objectives;
 - The extent to which any underperformance is being addressed and associated risks are being mitigated;
- Conclusions:
 - 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 performance against the Corporate Plan?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet?

Section B – Supporting Information

5. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The report is intrinsically linked with each of the Council policies and priorities:

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			

6. Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	<p>How are you prioritising the actions with the plan against the short term and long term needs of the Community?</p> <p>Are there any long term trends developing that could affect how this plan is implemented to how the actions are prioritised?</p>
<p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<p>How are you ensuring that the needs of the service users monitored and are taken into account within the implementation of the Plan.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>How does the Council's implementation of the plan impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?</p>
<p>Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	<p>How is the knowledge / information / good practice of others being used to inform / influence the Council's work?</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>How as a Council are we ensuring we are consistently seeking the views of those who are impacted through the implementation of the plan?</p> <p>Within the work of the Project Boards, how are you ensuring the diverse communities are involved in your decision making?</p>

7. Background Papers

- [The Essentials – Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2017 / 22](#)
- PSC – People Mid-Year Service Plan Reviews – [25 June 2019](#) – [11 June 2019](#)
- PSC People End of Year Service Plan Reviews – [4 December 2019](#) – [26 November 2019](#)
- PSC – Place and Corporate Mid – Year Service Plan Review – [24 June 2019](#) – [10 June 2019](#)
- PSC – Place and Corporate End of Year Service Plan Review – [19 November 2019](#) – [3 December 2019](#)

Report Completed: September 2019