

Report

Cabinet

Part 1

Date: 11 November 2020

Subject Newport City Council Covid 19 Response and Recovery Update

Purpose To present to Cabinet an update on the Council's progress being made towards recovering services and supporting Newport's communities as part of its Strategic Recovery Aims.

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Head of People and Business Change

Ward All

Summary The Covid-19 health emergency has been ongoing since March 2020 and has impacted all communities and businesses across Newport as the City has continued to adapt and respond to the necessary restrictions to minimise the spread of the virus. Newport Council's response has been to ensure continuity of services with our strategic partners, support vulnerable residents across communities, support businesses and ensure the safety of staff. This report provides an overview of what action the Council has taken to date and the progress against the Strategic Recovery Aims.

Following the previous Cabinet Report in October 2020, the number of positive cases in Newport has remained steady across the community since going into a localised lockdown. In other parts of South East Wales, cases in some areas continue to increase. In response, the Welsh Government has enacted a 'circuit break' from Friday 23rd October, for the whole of Wales to go into a two to three week lockdown resulting in tighter restrictions for households and businesses. The Council's Civil Contingencies 'Gold Team' alongside Strategic Coordination Group and Incident Response Teams have taken necessary actions and shared communications supporting communities and businesses to adapt to the changes. Despite these measures, the Council has continued to operate normally providing necessary support.

Proposal Cabinet is asked to consider the contents of the report and note the progress being made to date, the risks that are still faced by the Council.

Action by Corporate Management Team

Timetable Immediate

Signed

Background

Since the last Cabinet Report on 14th October 2020, Newport Council and its partners have continued to monitor vigilantly the Covid-19 cases in the City through its role at the multi-agency Strategic Co-ordination Group (SCG), the Council's Emergency Response Team (Covid Gold) and liaison with Welsh Government (WG) and Public Health Wales partners.

Covid-19 Response (15th October to 2nd November 2020)

Since the last Report, Wales has continued to see an increasing number of positive cases despite the WG and local authorities putting in place localised lockdowns and hyper-local lockdowns. This is a picture that is being encountered across all nations in the UK with each nation taking its own actions to respond to the crisis. In Wales, WG implemented a 'fire break' across the whole of Wales commencing from 23rd October and ended on the 9th November. The resulting restrictions put in place were:

- All non-essential retail, pubs and restaurants closed. WG provided economic support for those businesses that had to close and employees were able to access UK Government support.
- All households were advised to stay at home and no indoor or outdoor gatherings were permitted. Where those who can work from home were advised to do so. Those in single person or a single parent households were allowed to form a 'bubble' with one other household.
- Community centres, libraries and places of worship were closed and only childcare settings were permitted to stay open in the period.
- Primary / Special schools, Years 7 and 8 and those taking exams were allowed to go into school for the week commencing 2nd November. All other secondary pupils stayed at home and received home based teaching.
- Students living in households had to stay at home and receive blended learning.

For Newport Council, the restrictions have meant that some buildings / sites have had to close. But key services such as Flying Start continue to operate, continuing education and parks, open spaces and playgrounds remain open. The overall effectiveness of these measures will not be known for another two to three weeks. But it is hoped that these will reduce the spread of the virus across communities. Throughout this period the Council alongside Public Health Wales, WG and other organisations have been communicating to all residents and businesses the importance of adhering to the restrictions, best practice relating to hygiene, social distancing and contacting the Track, Trace and Protect (TTP) service. In addition to these messages, local and Gwent wide Incident Management Teams have been instigated to review the current rate of infections and incidents and make recommendations on measures required to the rising incidents of infections.

This winter period will be a challenging time as we will have to live alongside the virus, managing seasonal winter flu, adapt to the changes required leaving the EU Single Market and potentially respond to winter events such as snow and flooding. This will require the Council and all of its key stakeholders to work together and support communities and businesses and ensure the vulnerable are cared for and services continue to be delivered.

Despite all of these challenges, the Council is continuing progress in delivering against its Well-being Objectives and Strategic Recovery Aims. In November, Council's Scrutiny Committees will be reviewing the progress being made by the Council's service areas against their service plans and in December a summary of the Council's progress will be provided to Cabinet.

Progress of Delivery against Strategic Recovery Aims

Outlined in Appendix 1 of the report is a detailed update on the progress of delivery being made against the Strategic Recovery Aims. A summary of the progress to 31st October 2020 as follows:

Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schools have been providing either face to face or distance learning to pupils in line with guidance for the National 'fire-break' lockdown from Friday 23rd October to 9th November.• A hot school meal service reinstated on all primary school sites from 2nd November 2020.• The average attendance rate across all schools in September 2020 was 80%.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to improve the IT infrastructure is continuing. 14 schools have migrated to the SRS Schools Edu network to date. • Plans are in place to create new delivery locations in the city centre to offer employability support. • The Reach/Restart project is sourcing tablets and WIFI dongles to offer support to refugees in Newport. Working closely with partner organisations, offering integration and employability advice and guidance. This also includes equipment that is used to attend ESOL classes and accredited work related qualifications.
Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has received a number of applications into its Property Enhancement Scheme. • Refreshed Empty Property Group set up to include problematic long-term vacant commercial property. • Bids have also been submitted to the Innovative Housing Programme (phase 4) which supports developments that use modern methods of construction to meet identified housing need. • Solar Installation - All phase 1 & 2 sites are now complete. Further sites are being scoped for suitability for solar PV. The long term aim to install solar PV on 100% of our suitable sites.
Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First Contact teams works in a flexible way and provides face to face assessment when necessary and social distancing requirements and when required use of PPE is strictly adhered to. • The OT service is experiencing some staffing challenges and recruitment is underway. They continue to provide urgent assessments and provide an Information Advice and Assistance (IAA) service with First Contact. DFG work continues but only for the most urgent adaptations. • The in-house care homes have a small number of vacancies and are able to take admissions. • We are looking at the availability of emergency respite. • The Contracts & Commissioning Team work closely with colleagues in Environmental Health, PHW and ABUHB to support the Care Homes in Newport to manage the stringent requirements on infection control and PPE to keep their residents safe. • Additional training provided via Human Resource team has been sourced to provide longer term support for remote working. The objective is to provide support on keeping connected with others and maximising productivity whilst remote working.
Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Impact Assessment (CIA) finalised following the stakeholder engagement work completed with the Fairness Commission. • Participatory Budgeting Steering Group has been formed and included nearly 30 people, including representatives of the most affected groups (Covid19). • During Halloween/Bonfire Night the usual outreach work and diversionary activities will be curtailed due to Covid 19. Large organised gatherings are also restricted. The police and fire service are taking a “zero tolerance” approach to this period. • The Council Community Safety Wardens are working with SWF&R to identify bonfire sites to take preventative action. Positive Futures will provide some targeted outreach activities.

Financial Summary

The Council's financial (revenue and capital) update is reported separately as part of the Council's budget management. The Covid-19 impact is reported to Cabinet and as highlighted in previous finance reports, the Council's financial position continues to be closely monitored in light of significant reductions in income and increase in costs to deliver services during the crisis.

Risks

Through the Council's Risk Management process, the Covid-19 risk is reported every quarter to the Council's Cabinet and Audit Committee. Below is the latest update taken from the Quarter 2 2020/21 risk report update.

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (1-5)	Probability of risk occurring (1-5)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
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Covid 19 Pandemic Risk (Corporate Risk)	5	5	Mitigation measures outlined in the report.	Corporate Management Team
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Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Corporate Plan 2017-22
Strategic Recovery Aims

Options Available and considered

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.
2. To request further information or reject the contents of the report

Preferred Option and Why

1. To consider and note the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

Welsh Government have been supporting local authorities through the pandemic with a Hardship Fund intended to reimburse for all Covid related spend over and above existing budgets and within a set criteria. The fund also includes loss of income compensation; again, within a set criteria. The fund excludes 'Council Tax loss of income' which is currently under significant strain and 'Council Tax Reduction Scheme costs reimbursement' – both of which are monitored carefully. The fund will run to the end of the current financial year. It is continually developing and evolving to support specific initiatives as and when required.

In essence, Covid related, eligible expenditure are predominantly funded by the WG. A revenue budget monitor to end of September will be reported to the Cabinet in November and include the latest position. Financial forecasts are slowly improving as the Council continues to incur vacancy cost savings and other savings linked to the new ways of working currently in place e.g. less travel costs. These are required to mitigate against delayed delivery of savings and loss of Council Tax income which together are significant.

All costs which are not eligible for WG funding will need to be funded from services own budgets and will be reported as and when they develop over the year. Service areas have been asked to minimise these, wherever possible where they create overspending.

Comments of Monitoring Officer

There are no specific legal issues arising from the Report, which provides an update on the actions taken to deliver the Council's Strategic Recovery Aims and progress since the September report. Any legal issues will be picked up at the appropriate time as part of the operational delivery of the individual actions, within service areas. The main developments since the last report are in relation to the local lock-down restrictions, the escalation in compliance and enforcement work and the significant increase in the Test, Trace Protect contact tracing work.

Comments of Head of People and Business Change

The recovery of the Council's services is important to ensure that we are able to build on the strong collaborative work that the Council has delivered in the last 6 months to manage this crisis. The role of Civil Contingencies, emergency planning and preparation is vital to ensure that the Council is able to

continue to deliver services but also minimise the risks posed on Newport's communities as new restrictions are implemented.

The Council's supporting services and our partners are building on the advancements made to ensure we are able to operate safely and maintain the necessary social distance guidelines. The progress detailed in this report highlights the continuous work that is being made and build up resilience in the long term.

Comments of Cabinet Member

The Leader of the Council is briefed on all aspects of the Council's strategic recovery.

Local issues

Members to be aware of the impacts that Covid is having on our Local Communities and business.

Scrutiny Committees

NA

Equalities Impact Assessment

The findings outlined in the Council's Covid-19 Community Impact Assessment have informed the development of the Strategic Recovery Aims as well as future strategic and operational decision making.

Children and Families (Wales) Measure

Not applicable.

Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The areas covered in this report demonstrate the progress being made against the Strategic Recovery Aims which also support the Council's Corporate Plan 2017-22. In consideration of the sustainable development principle and 5 ways of working:

Long Term – The progress reported against the Strategic Aims support the long term aims of the Council to improve people's lives.

Preventative – The preventative work outlined in the report support the Council's approach to minimising future covid 19 outbreaks and as necessary provide targeted support to those that need it. Re-establishing services in line with necessary legislation and regulation enables the Council to operate in the new normal.

Integration – The Strategic Recovery Aims have been integrated with the Council's Wellbeing Objectives set in the Corporate Plan as well as Service Plans. Recommendations from the Community Impact Assessment will also shape how the Council can improve the delivery of services across communities.

Involvement – Included in this report are actions to involve Newport's communities to provide assurance and shape the way in which services are being delivered by the Council. Their feedback and involvement in the process will enable the Council to consider how services are delivered in the long term.

Collaboration - The actions in the report are being undertaken in collaboration with partners from the Council's Public Services Board but also strategic partners within each service area. The collaborative work enables the Council to share resources and build expertise and knowledge.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Not applicable.

Consultation

Senior Leadership Team

Corporate Management Team

Officer leads across the Authority

Background Papers

Cabinet Report (Strategic Recovery Aims) – July 2020

Corporate Plan 2017-22

Strategic Recovery Aims

Dated: November 2020

Appendix 1 – Progress of Delivery against Strategic Recovery Aims (as at end of 31st October 2020)

Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment.		
Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.		
Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.		
Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
Support schools and other educational establishments to safely reopen for staff and pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 2nd October, 12 primary schools have had positive cases and 15 contact groups have been required to self-isolate. Additionally, 4 secondary schools have had positive cases and 10 contact groups have been required to self-isolate. There have been no recorded cases of children attending NCC special schools or nursery schools. Face coverings are now required to be used by all pupils over the age of 11 who are accessing home to school transport. This requirement has been in place since 1st September 2020. A hot school meal service was reinstated at two primary schools from 14th September. Further information will be shared with Head teachers across Newport shortly with a view to the hot meal service being reinstated on all sites as soon as possible. Breakfast Club provision is variable across the city. A large proportion of schools have chosen to postpone the re-establishment of breakfast clubs whilst arrangements for statutory schooling are allowed to embed and stabilise. Further information is due to be shared with Head teachers shortly for consideration when determining future provision. Some schools have however already implemented Breakfast Club provisions, albeit that these differ to pre-Covid operations. In some schools, numbers have reduced, in others a grab-bag facility enables children to be provided with a free breakfast in the classroom environment. The Council has a statutory duty to provide free school meals for eligible pupils, and this requirement still stands in cases where a pupil is required to self-isolate. Given the documented prevalence of Coronavirus across Newport, this position is likely to change significantly as time progresses. A solution is therefore required to ensure that appropriate provision is established to ensure that the Council's statutory duties around Free School Meal provision can be fulfilled. As at 11th September 129 pupils entitled to free school meals were required to self-isolate. We are awaiting further guidance from Welsh Government on this matter. Newport Norse is reporting high levels of sickness amongst staff employed to support the 24 schools who are within the Cleaning SLA. At present, requirements continue to be met, but this is being monitored closely. <p>Test, Trace and Protect (TTP) held with all schools hosted by NCC Health and Safety and Environmental Health in collaboration with Education Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of 19th October, 18 primary schools have had positive cases and 24 contact groups have been required to self-isolate. Seven secondary schools have had positive cases and 13 contact groups have been required to self-isolate. One special school has reported a case and one contact group has been required to self-isolate. There have been no recorded cases of children attending NCC nursery schools. Schools have been providing either face to face or distance learning to pupils in line with guidance for the National 'fire-break' lockdown from Friday 23rd October to 9th November. A hot school meal service reinstated on all primary school sites from 2nd November 2020. Arrangements to support free school meal entitlement for pupils unable to attend school due to self-isolation have now been implemented via a £19.50 per week supermarket voucher scheme, similar to that used to support eligible families during the summer term. There continues to be a variable position regarding Breakfast Clubs. Head teachers are aware that Welsh Government's view is that there should be a return to pre-Covid arrangements however individual decisions regarding the reinstatement of this provision have been taken by Head teachers and Governing Bodies following completion of risk assessments and, where appropriate, fairness and equality impact assessments. Where provision has been reinstated, this also varies with some schools offering a traditional but reduced service, with others implementing a classroom-based approach. There continues to be a variable position regarding Breakfast Clubs. Head teachers are aware that Welsh Government's view is that there should be a return to pre-Covid arrangements however individual decisions regarding the reinstatement of this provision have been taken by Head teachers and Governing Bodies following completion of risk assessments and, where appropriate, fairness and equality impact assessments. Where provision has been reinstated, this also varies with some schools offering a traditional but reduced service, with others implementing a classroom-based approach. As at 19th October, 26 schools across the primary and special school estate have reinstated breakfast club provision in some capacity. Home to School transport arrangements are operating successfully and thus enabling learners to access school. Concessionary seats will be made available from November 2020.

Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment.

Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newport Norse is continuing to meet the Cleaning SLA requirements in relation to the 24 schools that purchase this provision. • Head teachers are now able to submit priority test requests for symptomatic pupils who are unable to secure tests in the usual way. These requests are sent to the central Education Service who act as the conduit in submitting this information to ABUHB. Details of missed tests are shared with Head teachers who will then ensure that appropriate welfare checks are carried out.
<p>Work to prevent and reduce inequality of progress and outcomes in education for mainstream and vulnerable learners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WG £1.018m grant for the Recruit, Recover, Raise Standards: Accelerating Learning Programme (ALP) allocations have been issued to schools. Schools are submitting plans via EAS grant monitoring portal • WG £20K (ALP) for NCC will be ported from Education Services to Children’s Services to expand catch-up support for Looked After Children and re-engagement of learners known to Children’s Services who are at risk from Criminal Exploitation • Guidance circulated to Head teachers and governing bodies on the recording of registers and following up on absence • Destinations meetings have been held with schools and Coleg Gwent to identify young people who are at risk of becoming NEET and allow follow up by staff from the Education Services and Regeneration Investment & Housing teams. • WG £58k grant to commission the ABUHB Whole School Approach team to support all Newport schools, with a specific focus on Wellbeing and Covid recovery. • WG £26k grant to expand the Counselling service to support children and young people below the Year 6 threshold. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings are ongoing with schools, college and Careers Wales to identify school leavers who are not currently in education, employment or training and are at risk of becoming NEET. Follow up with the young people identified is completed by staff from the Education Services and Regeneration Investment & Housing teams. • The average attendance rate across all schools in September 2020 was 80%. All learners, including those that were previously shielding were expected to return to their school from 14th September 2020. However, in most schools, a minority of pupils have not returned as a result of parental concerns about transmission of the Covid-19 virus. These concerns are initially being followed up by the school. Concerns are then escalated to the Education Welfare Service after the school has made every attempt to engage the family. The use of Fixed Penalty Notices or proceedings for non-attendance is not currently available for local authorities / schools • An increasing number of families are notifying schools and the local authority of their intention to home educate their children. As of 31st August 2020, 130 children were recorded as being home educated in Newport. This increased to 156 by the end of September 2020. Education Welfare Officers are contacting all families within 10 days of this notification to provide reassurances about the mitigations schools are putting into place to help reduce the transmission of the Covid-19 virus and to ensure that families understand the requirements related to home education.
<p>Support schools to enhance and develop digital skills; digital teaching and learning platforms; and enhanced support for digitally excluded learners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to improve the IT infrastructure in schools is ongoing with the programme running to plan • £700k of WG EdTech grant funding has been used to order additional digital devices for schools • Links have been established with Maindee Unlimited who are seeking to provide digital devices to primary pupils in Maindee Primary School and Lliswerry Primary School. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to improve the IT infrastructure is continuing. 14 schools have migrated to the SRS Schools Edu network to date.

Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment.

Understand, and respond to, the additional challenges, which Covid19 has presented, including loss of employment, impact on business and on the progress, achievement and wellbeing of both mainstream and vulnerable learners.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
Support and enable people that are digitally excluded to access community IT programmes, Council services and other public services.	<p>No further updates since September 2020.</p> <p><i>September 2020 Update:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newport City Council's Adult Community learning courses will be recommencing from September where people can access IT and digital courses. • The next iteration of the Council's Digital Strategy will be developed this financial year and taking into consideration the findings of the Community Impact Assessment, Covid 19 recovery as areas of strategic focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Community Learning courses have recommenced but will be paused during the firebreak period.
Support people who have been affected by unemployment to access new opportunities through training and re-employment required for post Covid 19 businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celtic Manor made over 400 redundancies in the last couple of months. The employability teams have been supporting those affected residents with a Newport post code to update CV's, job search, access training etc., Those outside Newport have been signposted to out counterparts in the appropriate LA for the support required. . 800 postcodes were received from Celtic Manor 55% of which were Newport, this number will include part time seasonal staff also. • The Work & Skills teams are proactively looking at ways to increase capacity (both staffing & premises) across the City to allow for support of those affected due to the end of Furlough. • Reach/Restart – tablets and dongles have been purchased via the 'Barrier Fund' to distribute to those individuals who do not have the resource at home, this has enabled us to offer support virtually to those most in need. • £280k grant fund for freelance workers in cultural and arts sector has launched on 5th October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCC continue to offer redundancy support to employers and their staff whose jobs are under threat. NCC Employer liaison officers are in regular contact with them to arrange appointments with employment mentors so they can help them to secure subsequent employment. • Plans are in place to create new delivery locations in the city centre to offer employability support. We have existing locations across the city to offer assistance with additional locations ready for any surges in referrals. • The Reach/Restart project continues to source tablets and WIFI dongles so we can continue to offer support to refugees in Newport. We're working closely with partner organisations, offering integration and employability advice and guidance. This includes equipment that is used to attend ESOL classes and accredited work related qualifications. • CfW+ Programme - Additional £142k funding secured from WG to support with the increased numbers of unemployed when Furlough Ends. Four x Employment Mentors and One Employment Liaison officer to be employed on a 6 month contract. • I.T. Loan scheme to be launched in October – 10 Laptops with internet for each hub to support CfW and CfW+ customers who are seen to be job ready.
Ensure our diverse communities are appropriately supported through tailored interventions specific to their needs, including consideration of language, culture and points of access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work reported in September is still ongoing. • Business Support and Connected Communities Team are developing a BAME specific business support programme for local business owners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Reach/Restart project continues to source tablets and WIFI dongles so we can continue to offer support to refugees in Newport. We're working closely with partner organisations, offering integration and employability advice and guidance. This includes equipment that is used to attend ESOL classes and accredited work related qualifications. • BAME specific business support proposal currently being considered by Business Support/Connected Communities Team • Representative Workforce group established and scheduled to meet in November • Leader's BAME forum continues and members engaged with work across the council

Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy		
Understand and respond to the impact of Covid19 on the city’s economic and environmental goals to enable Newport to thrive again.		
Supports Wellbeing Objective 2 – To promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment.		
Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
Maintain our focus on regenerating Newport to deliver existing and new investment projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has secured £1.4m funding to proceed with redevelopment of Information Station and Museum and Library buildings. Engaged with Specialist Welsh Government Support to target long-term vacant and derelict properties across the city. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses are submitting their applications for approval for the Transforming Towns funding which seeks to make the City Centre Covid-safe. This involves funding for canopies, awnings and outdoor heaters to increase outdoor customer space over the winter period.
Enable and support the construction industry to re-establish the supply of new and affordable housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The planned development programme has been reviewed to consider schemes that may be revised to consider the specific demands connected to wider WG legislation towards homelessness duties, is progressing, notable achievements this month have included the demolition of part of the Tredegar Court sheltered housing scheme in order to allow for the replacement of bedsits with flats and the creation of a dementia friendly garden. We have also been working with RSL partners to access other Welsh Government Covid19 funding streams relating to affordable housing construction and redevelopment. These include the Innovative Housing Programme (phase 4) and the Optimised Retrofit Programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to deliver the planned development programme and have been working with RSL partners to identify schemes that could be brought forward at short notice to meet current demand should additional funding become available. We have been engaging with a number of national house builders to offer support in bringing developments forward.
Enable and support businesses to re-establish normal operations whilst maintaining the health and safety of their workers and customers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newport fully allocated its Welsh Government ‘Start-Up Grants’ in August 2020 – a fund to assist those who started a business prior to lockdown and could not therefore access any support. The Council has received over 150 expressions of interest for Business Development Grants £280k grant fund for freelance workers in cultural and arts sector has launched on 5th October. Transforming Towns has £100k small grant scheme ‘repurposed’ to allow businesses to carry out winter resilience works (e.g. awnings, bubbles, outdoor heating) to be rolled out to city centre initially in October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses are submitting their applications for approval for the Transforming Towns funding which seeks to make the City Centre Covid-safe. This involves funding for canopies, awnings and outdoor heaters to increase outdoor customer space over the winter period. The Business Support Team continue to process Welsh Government support grants, including the Freelancer grant and the pending third phase of the Economic Resilience Fund.
Enable and support businesses to prepare for future trade arrangements resulting from Brexit negotiations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council’s Brexit Task and Finish Group convened on 21st September. The Council is reviewing the outcomes of ongoing Brexit Trade negotiations and as necessary assessing the impact(s) on the Council services, communities and economy. Latest update on the Council’s preparation is provided in the Brexit Cabinet Report for October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the previous Brexit update provided to Cabinet in October 2020, the UK Government and the EU have continued to negotiate a future trade agreement. However, it is now likely that the UK will leave the EU Single Market on 31st December 2020 without an agreement in place. The Council’s Brexit Task & Finish group is awaiting the outcomes of the negotiations and are already increasing communication to businesses to prepare for new arrangements and to continue to encourage EU Citizens living in UK before 31st December to apply for EU Settled Status. A separate Brexit report is being presented to Cabinet in November with an update on the Council’s preparations.
Protect and improve the environment, including air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gwent Sustainable Travel Charter has been developed to support and encourage staff to travel in a more sustainable way. The travel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Discussions and site visits have taken place to plan for the installation of the infrastructure.

Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy

Understand and respond to the impact of Covid19 on the city's economic and environmental goals to enable Newport to thrive again.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 2 – To promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment.

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
quality and decarbonisation of the city for its residents, businesses and visitors.	<p>charter was presented to cabinet in September as part of the Sustainable Travel Cabinet Report. A number of public services board member organisations will be signing up to the charter across Gwent. A launch will take place as part of Wales Climate Week in November and the commitments in the charter will be implemented over the next three years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NCC was the first Welsh local authority to place an order to supply a new all electric Refuse Collection Vehicle which is planned to be operational by April 2021.• This is in addition to the 5 x all electric cars and 12 x all electric vans which have been introduced into the fleet over the past 12 months as older vehicles have been replaced.• Electric vehicle charging points have been installed at Telford Depot and the Waste Disposal Site in support of these vehicles to compliment other charging points at various locations in the city, at a time when access to facilities and assets are under less demand/occupation; therefore, logistics and displacement are less of a constraint.• Community Solar installation across multiple sites will be complete by October 2020. Further sites will be identified to increase the council's local renewable energy supply.• A widespread building energy efficiency programme is being developed to tackle carbon emissions, in the short-term to realise savings associated with using Council building is a less intensive form of occupation.• Public electric vehicle charge points will be operational in council car parks this autumn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar Installation - All phase 1 & 2 sites are now complete. Further sites are being scoped for suitability for solar PV. The long term aim to install solar PV on 100% of our suitable sites.• Building efficiency programme - A soft market test for an energy efficiency partner has been completed, internal approvals / consultation ongoing.• Public Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Commissioning will be complete and charge points will be in operation in November. Three further sites developed by the Carbon Reduction Team – Installation to be managed by City Services.
Continuing support and safe delivery of the Council's City services including waste, cleansing and highways.	<p>October Cabinet – No further update <i>September Cabinet 2020</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>City services continue to operate normally and within the requirements of Covid-19 guidance for social distancing and cleaning.</i>• <i>Waste services continue to operate the appointments system at the Household Waste Recycling Site and have recently reopened the Tip shop for reusable items.</i>• <i>The Council purchased a camera car to support Civil Parking Enforcement Officers to prevent and deter unlawful parking across the city.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results from the Covid-19 perception survey with Citizen's Panel that communities have valued refuse and recycling services during this period, and also the maintenance of cleansing services.• City Services continue to operate normally, though response times may be longer than normal.• HWRC has reopened via a booking system only to manage social distancing requirements (though will close for 2 weeks during firebreak)

Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens		
Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities		
Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient		
Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
Support people to remain living independently in their homes and communities.	<p>October 2020 – No further updates were provided.</p> <p><i>September 2020 Update:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brynglas Day centre remains closed but a new temporary outreach service has been developed that will support people in their own homes and community. The centre has been cleaned and prepped in readiness for opening.</i> • <i>The virtual First Contact hub continues to operate and is managing all Social Service contacts, offering information, advice and assistance and escalating appropriate cases for further assessment.</i> • <i>NOW assessments continue and preparation for the introduction of LPS (Liberty Protection Safeguards) continues for the new implementation date of 01.04.2022</i> • <i>The Hospital Team and Reablement are operating to deliver Home First and maintain hospital discharge processes, PPE is used and social distancing maintained where possible.</i> • <i>Domiciliary care services have been operational throughout and are now at full capacity. New packages are being brokered without delay and in June and July of 2020 the Brokers successfully commissioned 1000 new hours of service</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home First continue to support people to return home if they do not need to be admitted to hospital at RGH and NHH. The Grange Hospital is anticipated to open in November and Home First will be expanded to provide a service from the new A&E based there. • The First Contact teams works in a flexible way and provides face to face assessment when necessary and social distancing requirements and when required use of PPE is strictly adhered to. • The OT service is experiencing some staffing challenges and recruitment is underway. They continue to provide urgent assessments and provide an IAA service with First Contact. DFG work continues but only for the most urgent adaptations. • There has been a significant increase in the number of people need assessment under the Mental Health Act which is statutory requirement. We are monitoring this situation carefully and working closely with colleagues in ABUHB. • A range of support for people with difficulties with their mental wellbeing in the context of the pandemic has been developed in partnership with ABUHB and the voluntary sector and through Housing Support. • Carer breakdown is a concern as the pandemic continue into the winter. Social Workers are in contact with the people we support and their Carers and are closely monitoring the situation. • The Day Opportunities based in Bryn Glas continues to support people in the community rather than providing a building based service. • We are able to access domiciliary care and support and are able to broker new packages.
Fully restore Children and Adult Services, supporting partners that have been impacted by Covid 19 and ensuring service users and staff are supported and protected.	<p>October 2020 – No further updates were provided.</p> <p><i>September 2020 update:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Staffing levels are good with little agency usage</i> • <i>Circa 5 vacancies in each of the Councils 3 homes, with continued interest for new admissions; Spring Gardens and Blaen y Pant are planning to take up to 5 new admissions from a home in Torfaen that is closing</i> • <i>A system for residents families has been set to facilitate socially distanced visits</i> • <i>Homes have been utilising technology such as iPads in order to communicate with families and other professions such as GP surgeries</i> • <i>Adults training team have been providing a blended approach to training through online and some face to face courses (where essential)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The in-house care homes have a small number of vacancies and are able to take admissions. • We are looking at the availability of emergency respite as a number of care homes are reluctant to accept short term placements unless the person has tested negative for COVID19. • The Social Services Training Team continues to support the teams and services including new starters to access any essential training through on-line courses and in-person training when necessary e.g. moving and handling. • Community Support for those people who have been shielding remains in place and we have extended the contract with Volunteering Matters who can provide support for people who for example, live some distance from their family and need help with shopping etc. • Community Connectors are also active in the communities and in particular the hard to reach groups who may need additional support to access TTP for example.

Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens

Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities

Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular contact with operational teams has continued to ensure that staffing fulfil their regulatory training requirements• Training rooms in Brynglas have been prepped and are ready to deliver training in line with Covid 19 requirements• Commissioning have been working with residential and domiciliary care providers throughout. The team have administered the WG Hardship funding, co-ordinated requests for PPE and testing, distributed guidance and worked closely with Environmental Health, ABUHB and Public Health Wales who have monitored homes and supported them in the implementation and ongoing maintenance of risk management systems.• Commissioning are also currently administering the £500 payment to care workers in adult and children provider services• The Commissioning team are working with regional colleagues to share intelligence and to ensure funding is being allocated in a way that is consistent and equitable.• Community services such as MIND, Citizens Advice Bureau, and the Pobl carer respite service are now beginning to open up move into the next phase of transition.• The Appointeeship service has been operational throughout but modified to reduce the need for face-to-face contact. Some of these changes have worked well and will be retained for efficiency.	
Assess the impact and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector in Newport informing future service requirements.	<p><u>October 2020 Update – No further updates</u></p> <p>September 2020 update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Older persons residential and nursing care providers have been disproportionately affected by Coronavirus and ongoing discussions with providers are addressing issues of long term financial sustainability and the requirement to change the way the service is delivered to ensure the safety of residents and staff.• Discussions are being held with providers across all commissioned service areas about their recovery plans; this includes how they can adapt and modify their services to adhere to social distancing and infection control requirements and how this will affect capacity and deliverability. i.e. some providers have been using technology to run online groups and offer support. This has been very effective in some areas and will continue to form part of the future service offer. We are starting to have discussions with respite and day service providers about how and when they can restore provision.• Social Workers remain in contact with people we support and are monitoring the situation in relation to carer breakdown or changes to circumstances because of the pandemic. This engagement is critical in the determination of how services re-open, to measure demand, offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Contracts & Commissioning Team work closely with colleagues in Environmental Health, PHW and ABUHB to support the Care Homes in Newport to manage the stringent requirements on infection control and PPE to keep their residents safe.• The £500 payment to frontline social care staff had been distributed to all those who meet the Welsh Government criteria. We have also gathered the names of staff across the sector who will be a high priority group to receive the vaccination when it becomes available. Access to the flu vaccine are restricted as supplies are limited but it is hoped this will change in the coming weeks and we can support frontline staff to access the vaccine via their community pharmacy.• Newport is working collaboratively with the other Local Authorities in Gwent to support the sector mitigate the impact through the distribution of the COVID Hardship Fund.• Visiting to Care Homes has been limited to essential only visits such as end of life since Newport was placed under further restrictions by WG. We have supported the homes to use technology.

Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens		
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Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
	<i>confidence and support the role of informal carers at a time when those shielding are considering how to return to services.</i>	
Safeguard and support children and young people to remain safely with their families.	<p>October 2020 – No further updates since September 2020</p> <p><i>September 2020 update:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children Services are now conducting their work with families and young people applying necessary social distancing measures. • Children’s homes / settings have remained open and the team continues manage caseload accordingly. • Development of Windmill Farm and Rosedale developments are still proceeding. 	Awaiting further update
Improve opportunities for Active Travel and work towards improved air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to last month’s update, the Council is undertaking a review of its Active Travel Network Map collaborating with partners from the PSB • Work has commenced across a number of Active Travel schemes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Active Travel schemes being delivered this financial year are ongoing and the review of the Active Travel network map is also continuing. • The Council is also awaiting the report from SEWTC which will be released in November.
Regulate businesses and support consumers / residents to protect and improve their health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Test, Trace and Protect Service has been supporting public services with the current outbreak in Newport. • Regulatory services continue to support businesses on their Covid-19 secure environments and continue to ensure necessary compliance arrangements are being adhered to for both workers and customers. 	Awaiting further update
Work with key partners to safely re-open cultural and leisure facilities including the promotion of the city’s parks, open spaces and coastal paths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum and Art Gallery are open on alternate days via a booking system • Newport Live sites such as the Theatre and Newport Centre remain closed to the public. • Newport Live is applying the new restrictions to its centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Riverfront theatre remains closed during this period. • Newport Centre has remained partially open until the firebreak announced by the Welsh Government. The centre will close for the 2 weeks. • The Museum and Art Gallery have remained open for visits via an appointment system but will close on 23rd October as required by Welsh Government. • The Transporter Bridge is a seasonal attraction and has now closed.
Sustain a safe, healthy and productive workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of buildings remain closed to the public and following Welsh Government guidance the Council’s advice to staff is that they continue to work from home and to avoid any unnecessary visits to the Council buildings where possible. • Recent guidance has been shared with Council staff about ongoing arrangements based upon Welsh Government guidance. • The Council continues to staff working from home by co-ordinating the distribution of home working kit with further distribution continuing into October. • Internally, the organisation has supported staff in different ways to continue to provide services to residents – signposting to mental health support from our occupational health department, counselling provision and regular advice and guidance in staff communications on a range of wellbeing topics. Each piece of communications that goes out has a wellbeing focus to support the resilience of staff working during this challenging period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to the progress reported in October, additional training has been sourced to provide longer term support for remote working. The objective is to provide support on keeping connected with others and maximising productivity whilst remote working.

Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens

Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of people, safeguarding the most vulnerable, and building strong, resilient communities

Supports Wellbeing Objective 3 – To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Scrutiny and other Council governance meetings have recommenced from September 2020. 	

Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19

Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
<p>Work together with our partners to reduce poverty, address homelessness and support our most vulnerable people as a priority.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress has been made on the actions arising from Strategic Housing Forum (SHF), including the formation of sub- groups set up to address specific issues relating to housing in Newport including rough sleeping, Covid19 WG homelessness legislation, housing supply and community support. Additional units of emergency temporary accommodation sourced and utilised to meet on-going and sustained demand. Sub- groups of the SHF developed to ensure longevity to partnership working throughout and post- Covid Homelessness phase 2 (Covid19) revenue and capital funding confirmed with WG Proposals for phase 2 revenue funding, to deliver mental health and substance misuse services agreed and progressed with partners In accordance with WG guidance, phase 2 strategic actions agreed to ensure cohorts at risk of homelessness are accommodated and supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional units of emergency temporary accommodation are being sourced and allocated to meet continuing demand. Resources made available to project manage homelessness phase 2 capital projects. Proposals for phase 2 revenue funding, to deliver mental health and substance misuse services agreed being progressed with partners Working with private sector accommodation providers to ensure the supply and use of accommodation during fire breaker, We continue to work with our third sector support partners to support the ongoing provision of temporary accommodation at Mission Court.
<p>Assess and address the inequalities that Covid 19 has highlighted or contributed to within our communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Impact Assessment (CIA) finalised following the work completed with the Fairness Commission. People & Business Change are also supporting the Council's commitment to ensure the City's BAME and marginalised communities have access to services, employment and economic opportunities across the city and in the Council. Black History Wales 365 campaign supported by NCC – launching start of Black History Month. Monthly engagement and communications activities planned throughout the year BAME specific business support is being commissioned,(seminars and workshops) to support existing and start-up businesses across the city Positive action plan being developed to further develop the council's offer in terms of employment opportunities to under-represented/disadvantaged groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAME specific business support proposal currently being considered by Business Support/Connected Communities Team Representative Workforce group established and scheduled to meet in November Leader's BAME forum continues and members engaged with work across the council People & Business Change finalising the Community Impact Assessment (CIA) following the stakeholder engagement work completed with the Fairness Commission. A Participatory Budgeting Steering Group has been formed and included nearly 30 people, most of who are representatives of the most affected groups (Covid19).

Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19

Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
Identify, develop and seek to sustain any positive developments emerging during the crisis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader has established and chairs a BAME community forum in order to progress Black Lives Matter areas of focus. <p>October 2020 – No further updates from September 2020</p> <p>September 2020 update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout the Covid crisis and continuing into the easing of lockdown measures, the Council's communication team have been utilising social media (Twitter / Facebook) and website to promote the work of the Council, delivery and reopening of services and the community efforts across Newport. • One Newport (Public Services Board) newsletter has been highlighting the positive work of the Council and its partners in supporting the city to recover and various initiatives across communities. • Audit Wales have revised their work programme for the year to provide assurance and share best practice on the work that the Council and other public sector bodies have undertaken in during and after lockdown. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Newport (Public Services Board) bulletin has been highlighting the positive work of the Council and its partners in supporting the city to recover and various initiatives across communities. This has been re-enforced by ongoing promotion of partners' work through the One Newport Twitter and Instagram accounts.
Developing opportunities for people to access suitable and affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planned development programme is progressing, notable achievements this month have included the demolition of part of the Tredegar Court sheltered housing scheme in order to allow for the replacement of bedsits with flats and the creation of a dementia friendly garden. • We have also been working with RSL partners to access other Welsh Government funding streams relating to affordable housing construction and redevelopment. These include the Innovative Housing Programme and the Optimised Retrofit Programme. • Work has continued on the private rented sector research. The focus of the research has been agreed with the funders and an initial steering group meeting has been held. • Progress has been made on the actions arising from Strategic Housing Forum, including the formation of sub groups set up to address specific issues relating to housing in Newport including rough sleeping, housing supply and community support. • SHF sub groups developed and membership determined to address issues relating to housing supply and homelessness. • Phase 2 WG capital funding proposals developed further to provide additional units of supported housing. This will support move on from temporary accommodation and mitigate the effects of COVID on homelessness and rough sleeping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newport has been accepted onto Welsh Governments Private Rented Sector pathfinder project and have obtained grant funding to acquire units of accommodation to facilitate move on from temporary accommodation. • We continue to deliver the planned development programme and have been working with RSL partners to identify schemes that could be brought forward at short notice to meet current demand should additional funding become available. • Bids have also been submitted to the Innovative Housing Programme (phase 4) which supports developments that use modern methods of construction to meet identified housing need. No further updates since October 2020. • Additional Phase 2 funding received and will allow the Team to progress schemes submitted as part of the Phase 2 bid.

Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19

Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
<p>Deliver a community cohesion programme that effectively responds to community tensions and creates a shared sense of identity across the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation and dissemination of key messages in community languages ongoing, particularly in response to developments around local lockdown • Gypsy and Traveller Group now well established, engaging appropriate partners • Disability Access Group meeting every 2 weeks and has advised on city centre re-opening and potential improvements to pedestrian access • Capital radio advert promoting EUSS has been commissioned, alongside a series of short information videos in community languages. Schools are also being proactively engaged in outreach work • Activities in place for Hate Crime Awareness Week (October) including targeted work with schools • Foodbank working group established to develop a co-ordinated approach across the city <p>Hate crime awareness week – planned communication campaign, targeted work in schools and community training sessions are planned. Community tensions are monitored and reported on a weekly basis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black History Wales supported during October with the launch of a yearlong programme of activities, anti-racism resources developed and shared with schools, Q&A sessions with BLM and Dragons Rugby and themed internal staff news • Hate Crime Charter signed and publicised, with training planned for staff in November • Collaboration with Hope not Hate and Centre for Countering Online Hate to deliver a seminar for communities and professionals focussing on addressing online hate speech and the hostile environment • Ongoing messaging and support is being provided to BAME communities, including the development of multilingual voice notes • Foodbank working group, Disability Group and EU Citizens meeting continue to meet virtually • Community training sessions and school workshops scheduled for November.
<p>Prevent and address instances of antisocial behaviour impacting upon the residents and the business community of Newport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Pill (sub group of Safer Newport) has now met on two occasions and has an action plan in place, based on the police’s most recent problem profile. Work is ongoing to ensure this reflects positive (and negative) lessons learned from previous work in Pill, and other areas of the city. • The Safer Pill Steering Group has also been established, bringing local community members together to consult on planned activities and shape priorities. • An additional sub-group of Safer Pill has been established to address issues associated with Gypsy and Traveller sites across the city. <p>Anti-social Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October is traditionally the most challenging time in relation to Anti-social behaviour with Halloween and Bonfire night being so close together. • Each year, the ASB Group/ASB Ops Group work closely with partners to establish a plan of work to mitigate the incidents of Anti-social behaviour as much as possible. This would include Diversionary activities with the Community Hubs, Housing and also Newport Live. This has resulted in reduction of incidents year on year for the last few years. 2020 is likely to be different. • Outreach work and diversionary activities may be curtailed due to Covid 19. Due to government guidelines, large organised gatherings are also restricted. The concern is for some communities to proceed regardless. 	<p>Safer Pill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Pill (sub group of Safer Newport) has now met on two occasions and has an action plan in place, based on the police’s most recent problem profile. Work is ongoing to ensure this reflects positive (and negative) lessons learned from previous work in Pill, and other areas of the city. • The Safer Pill Steering Group has also been established, bringing local community members together to consult on planned activities and shape priorities. Initial focus will be adult exploitation, ASB, violent crime, fly-tipping and waste. • An additional sub-group of Safer Pill has been established to address issues associated with Gypsy and Traveller sites across the city. <p>Anti-social Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year during Halloween/Bonfire Night the usual outreach work and diversionary activities will be curtailed due to Covid 19. Due to government guidelines, large organised gatherings are also restricted. The concern is some communities will proceed regardless. The police and fire service are taking a “zero tolerance” approach to this period. The Council Community Safety Wardens are working with SWF&R to identify bonfire sites to take preventative action. Positive Futures will provide some targeted outreach activities.

Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19

Provide people with the resources and support that they need to move out of the crisis, considering in particular the impact that Covid 19 has had on our minority and marginalised communities.

Supports Wellbeing Objective 4 – To build cohesive and sustainable communities

Strategic Aim Step	Update (October Cabinet 2020)	Update (November Cabinet 2020)
	<p>The police and fire service are taking a “zero tolerance” approach to this period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent work needs to be carried out via the Corporate Communications team to ensure that the message encourages a safe Halloween and Bonfire night period. We are likely to see a rise in ASB complaints. Pillgwenlly – Safer Pill has been established with Partners, co-chaired by the police and Newport City Council. Safer Pill will report directly to Safer Newport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent work will be carried out via the Corporate Communications team to ensure that the message encourages a safe Halloween and Bonfire night period. We are likely to see a rise in ASB complaints. Youth Justice Service is picking up all ASB referrals and are working with the police to offer this as a diversionary intervention on a preventative basis.
<p>Re-establish Community Regeneration facilities and services where it is safe to do so for staff and its service users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions surrounding Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) offering services from the Hubs are underway planned for the near future Play services will be offered in October half term Low level engagement for parenting / early language programmes ‘outdoors’ are planned in the near future Welfare visits will restart in Hubs in the near future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Regeneration services have restarted in a limited and safe way. Face to face services have been provided for employment support and the Aspire and Youth Academy work. Play scheme for Flying start age and 5-12yrs will be offered to identified groups for October half term.
<p>Develop opportunities for community involvement participation and engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perception survey was undertaken during July-Aug. Results are being analysed. Initial findings are positive in terms of the support provided to households, the wider community and how well the Council maintained essential services. Final results will be available in October. A bus wi-fi survey will be scheduled for November to increase the demographic and number of responses. The Fairness Commission has collaborated with NCC to run eight engagement sessions in August with the most affected groups identified in the Community Impact Assessment. A report of the findings is currently being drafted and will inform the CIA the Strategic Recovery work and the participatory budgeting programme. The participatory budgeting programme will commence in October and will be jointly run with the Fairness Commission as ‘trusted intermediaries’ and to ensure strong community representation and participation. The actual PB event is planned for January given the challenges in running inclusive engagement activities in the current climate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The survey suggests that public perception of the Council’s pandemic response was in the main positive, particularly in terms of support for households, the wider community and in maintaining service provision. Responses were particularly favourable in terms of refuse and recycling services, support for people shielding and key workers and maintaining/cleansing the public realm. The more negative responses focussed on the closure of parks, cemeteries, libraries and public toilets. There was a mixed response towards the information provided on services and public health messages. The survey is currently being extended using bus Wi-Fi technology which should greatly increase the responses received to date The participatory budgeting programme commenced in October with the formation of a Steering Group mostly made up of representatives of the most affected communities, who will oversee the running of the PB process in terms of eligibility, funding decisions, fairness and participation. This process now follows a strategic path from the Community Impact Assessment, to community engagement, participation of stakeholder and ultimately involvement in decision making and funding new projects to tackle Covid19.

Appendix 2 – Covid 19 Prevention and Response Structure

