

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

Part 1

Date: 30th November 2022

Subject Development of a Regional Scrutiny Committee for the Gwent Public Services Board

Author Scrutiny Adviser

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

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Rhys Cornwall	Strategic Director – Transformation and Corporate
Tracy McKim	Head of People, Policy and Transformation
Janice Dent	Policy and Partnership Manager

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to note the development of a new regional scrutiny committee to take forward the duties under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- 1.2 The Committee is asked to recommend the Terms of Reference for the new regional scrutiny and for 2 representatives to be agreed by full Council

- 2.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 came into force in April 2016 and is about improving the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. It is designed to support and deliver a public service that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. As one of the 44 bodies named in the Act, the council must consider the Act in everything it does.
- 2.2 Appended to this report is a report prepared by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and presented to the Gwent PSB on the 29th of September 2022. It sets out the direction of travel towards a regional scrutiny committee to scrutinise the work of the Gwent PSB.
- 2.3 The Gwent PSB accepted all the recommendations in the report. The Scrutiny Managers in the five constituent local authorities are taking forward with a view to the regional committee being operational from January 2023.

2.4 Scrutiny Arrangements

Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 stipulates that there must be a local authority overview and scrutiny committee in place to:

- Review or scrutinise decisions made by the PSB
- Make reports of recommendations to the PSB with respect to the PSB's functions or governance
- Consider such matters relating to the PSB that Welsh Ministers may refer to it
- Carry out such other functions that are imposed by the Act

- 2.5 This function has been carried out in the five local authorities in the region. With the creation of a regional PSB, scrutiny arrangements need to be in place to ensure that the above functions are carried out. It has been determined that the most effective way to do this, avoiding duplications and recognising the regional nature of the Gwent PSB, its plan and subsequent delivery is to create a new regional scrutiny committee. The work will be taken forward by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and the appended report describes the proposed arrangements in more detail.
- 2.6 OneNewport as a Local Delivery Group will continue the delivery of the existing Newport well-being plan, until 2023. Thereafter, OneNewport will be responsible for any local activity and actions under the Gwent well-being plan and any contribution to regional PSB activity.
- 2.7 As noted in the background section, consultation is currently taking place on the Gwent Well-being Plan with public sector organisations, the third sector and the general public; and workshops with Partners and public consultation are both planned to support the development of the Local Action Plans.
- 2.8 The Scrutiny Committee is therefore asked to receive and note the development of a new regional scrutiny committee to take forward the duties under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and to recommend adoption and agreement by full Council.
- 2.9 Once Regional Scrutiny Committee is established, members will need to consider the terms of reference for Partnerships Scrutiny, including Safer Newport, Newport's Community Safety Partnership.

Background Papers

[Consultation Draft Well-being Plan for Gwent 2023-28](#)
[Regional and Local Wellbeing Assessments](#)
[Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

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