

# Scrutiny Report



## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

### Part 1

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Subject **Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Area Plan 2023 - 2027**

**Author** Scrutiny Adviser

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

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Phil Diamond	Head of Gwent Regional Partnership Team
Natasha Harris	Partnerships and development Service Manager, Gwent Regional Partnership Team.
Sally Jenkins	Strategic Director – Social Services – Newport City Council

## Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

### 1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked

1. To consider the joint regional commitments within the Area Plan.
2. To note the joint priorities in the Area Plan and Newport ISPB plan, and at a future date, discuss how these can be integrated in the Council's Corporate Plan going forward.

### 2 Context

#### Background

- 2.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2014) places a statutory duty on local authorities and health boards to prepare a regional Area Plan, following the publication of the region's Population Needs Assessment (PNA) and Market Stability Report (MSR). The Gwent PNA was previously signed off by NCC during Autumn 2022 and a commitment was made to share the Gwent Area Plan with Newport Council members, to set out how regional priorities are to be delivered in partnership.
- 2.2 The **Gwent Area Plan 2023-2027** (*Appendix 1*) has been completed and signed off by Gwent RPB. An Area Plan summary has also been included in Section 3.2 of the cover report. The plan has

been developed in partnership with Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, and Torfaen local authorities, and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Third Sector partners and the Regional Partnership Team. The Area Plan sets out the actions required to achieve the priorities identified in the PNA, by our partners and citizens, and closely aligns and share similar principles of working to the Public Service Board (PSB) and Well-being Plan. The Area Plan is reviewed annually and can be updated to ensure we are meeting the needs of our communities.

- 2.3 Following the publication of the regional Population Needs Assessment (PNA) report each local authority and health board are required to prepare and publish an Area Plan setting out the range and level of services they propose to provide in response to the PNA core themes, which are:
- Children & Young People
  - Older People, including People with Dementia
  - Health & Physical Disabilities including Sensory Loss & Impairment
  - Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health
  - Learning Disabilities
  - Autism and Neurodevelopmental Conditions
  - Unpaid Carers
  - Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
- 2.4 Core themes are not addressed in isolation and there is an element of cross cutting working, in addition to the above including:
- A resilient skilled and integrated health and social care workforce
  - Housing needs
  - Rebalancing health and social care including social value
  - Substance misuse
  - Adult protection, child protection and safeguarding
  - Transforming children's services and removing profit from the care of looked after children
  - Tackling loneliness and isolation
- 2.5 Area plans must include the specific services planned in response to each core theme identified in the population assessment. As part of this, area plans must include:
- The actions partners will take in relation to the priority areas of integration for Regional Partnership Board
  - Administer and monitor Welsh Government grant funding e.g., Integrated Care Fund.
  - The instances and details of pooled funds to be established in response to the population assessment.
  - How services will be procured or arranged to be delivered, including by alternative delivery models.
  - Details of the preventative services that will be provided or arranged.
  - Actions being taken in relation to the provision of information, advice, and assistance services
  - Actions required to deliver services through the medium of Welsh
- 2.6 The Area Plan highlights the Regional Partnership Board's commitment to work in partnership to improve the health and wellbeing across the population of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. Given current challenges and financial pressures, it is paramount to work in partnership to deliver joint solutions to shared priorities and avoid duplication. The development of Area Plan and RPB Annual report is a statutory duty placed upon NCC under the Social Services and (Wales) Wellbeing Act 2014.
- 2.7 There are a number of statutory duties placed on local authorities and NCC specific under the Social Services and (Wales) Wellbeing Act 2014 and further details are included in underpinning codes of practice. In total, there are 299 'Must Dos' and 236 'Should Dos' included and facilitated through RPT and RPB on behalf of NCC. Both development of Area Plan and RPB Annual Report are duties placed on NCC.

	<b>Must DOs</b>	<b>Should DOs</b>
<b>Local Authorities</b>	75	25
<b>Health boards</b>	18	9
<b>Local authorities and health boards</b>	14 + (18)	6 + (22)
<b>RPB</b>	20	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	240 + (77)	130 + (115)
	<b>317</b>	<b>245</b>

- 2.8 A section of the Area Plan is monitored at each Strategic Partnership that sits within the RPB governance structure, to evaluate progress; with an annual review report by the RPB via an Annual Report which is submitted to Welsh Government. (***Being discussed next in the agenda***)
- 2.9 The regional Area Plan has been developed with ABUHB and Integrated Service Partnership Board (ISPB) leads to ensure alignment with the Newport ISPB Plan. The RPB will work closely with the 5 ISPBs across the region to ensure plans are delivered in collaboration, resources maximised and duplication is avoided. ISPB plans have to demonstrate alignment to the RPB population needs assessment, and the regional strategic partnerships will define integrated models of care, and work with the ISPBs to make an assessment of how close they are to delivering those models, identify gaps and what can be addressed through the local Neighbourhood Care Networks. The RPB and Strategic Partnerships will identify specific actions within the Area Plan that are best delivered at the ISPB level and form part of a place-based care model. A copy of the Newport ISPB Plan is published alongside the Area Plan <https://www.gwentrpb.wales/area-plan>. ***A direct link to the copy of the Newport ISPB Plan is included in Section 7 of the cover report.***
- 2.10 The progress against delivery of key objectives in the Area Plan, is monitored through the ***RPB Annual Report (to be discussed in the next agenda item)*** which considers specifically the priority groups set out in the PNA and cross cutting themes. Key developments have also been set out in the cover report for the Annual Report.

### **Previous Consideration of this item**

- 2.11 This is the first time the Area Plan 2023 - 2027 has been presented to this committee. The last Gwent Regional Area Plan was brought to the committee in 2019 for comment and feedback.

## **3 Information Submitted to the Committee**

- 3.1 The following is attached for the Committee's consideration:
- a) Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Area Plan 2023 – 2027 (Appendix A)

3.2 A summary of the Area Plan Outcomes has been taken from pages 24 – 27 of the agenda for the focus of the Committee:

Welsh Government Core Theme	Outcome Priority
<b>Children and Young People</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve outcomes for children and young people with complex needs through earlier intervention, community-based support, and placements closer to home.</li> <li>• To ensure good mental health and emotional wellbeing for children and young people through effective partnership working especially mitigating long term impact of Covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>
<b>Older People including Dementia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve emotional wellbeing for older people by reducing loneliness and social isolation with earlier intervention and community resilience.</li> <li>• To improve outcomes for people living with dementia and their carers. To support older people to live, or return following a period of hospitalisation, to their own homes and communities through early intervention, integrated care models and a whole system approach.</li> <li>• To mitigate the long-term impact of Covid-19 pandemic through, especially reducing waiting lists and times to access support, appointments, and medical procedures</li> </ul>
<b>Health and Physical Disabilities including people with sensory impairment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support disabled people, including sensory impairment, through an all-age approach to live independently in appropriate accommodation and access community-based services, including transport.</li> <li>• Ensure people are supported through access to accurate information, assistance and 'rehabilitation' where required.</li> <li>• Improve transition across all age groups and support services.</li> <li>• Ensure people are supported through access to accurate accessible information, assistance and 'rehabilitation' where required.</li> </ul>
<b>People with a Learning Disability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support people with learning disabilities to live independently with access to early intervention services in the community; and greater public awareness and understanding of people with learning disabilities needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Mental Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase understanding and awareness of mental health amongst the public, to reduce stigma and help people to seek support earlier.</li> <li>• We need to improve emotional well-being and mental health for adults and children through timely early intervention and community support.</li> </ul>
<b>Carers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support unpaid carers to care through flexible respite, access to accurate information, peer to peer support, effective care planning and through increased public understanding.</li> <li>• Improve well-being of young carers and young adult carers and mitigate against long-term impacts</li> </ul>
<b>Autism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide more timely diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder and access to support services and information.</li> </ul>

<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A multi-agency partnership approach to ensure appropriate housing and accommodation for older people and vulnerable citizens.</li> <li>• To ensure effective use of Disabled Facilities Grants and appropriate partnership support and available resources.</li> <li>• Homelessness requiring a collaborative response from public services and partners, especially the non-use of B&amp;B accommodation for young people, and through prevention and early intervention.</li> </ul>
----------------	--

## 4. Suggested Areas of Focus

### Role of the Committee

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

1. To consider the joint commitments within the Area Plan.
  - The Area Plan 2023-2028 is a continuation of the previous joint 5-year area plan and is informed by the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) completed in 2022. The effectiveness of delivering the plan and making a difference to people's lives in our communities, is dependent on a commitment to partnerships and integrated working.
2. To note the joint priorities in the Area Plan and Newport ISPB plan, and at a future date, discuss how these can be integrated in the Council's Corporate Plan going forward.

#### 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 Area Plan?
- Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
- Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the partnership?

### Suggested Lines of Enquiry

4.1 The Committee might wish to think about the following when devising questioning strategies;

- How will the Regional Partnership Board ensure that the commitments outlined in the Area Plan are being met?
- What measures are in place to monitor the progress of the Area Plan and ensure that it is making a positive impact on the lives of people in our communities?
- How will the Regional Partnership Board ensure that all partners involved in delivering the Area Plan are working collaboratively and effectively?
- What challenges does the Regional Partnership Board anticipate in delivering the Area Plan, and how will these be addressed?
- How will the Regional Partnership Board engage with local communities and service users to ensure that their needs and priorities are reflected in the delivery of the Area Plan?

- How will the ISPB ensure that resources are allocated fairly and efficiently across different areas and services in Newport?

## Section B – Supporting Information

### 5. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Well-being Objective	1 – Economy, Education and Skills	2 – Newport’s Environment and Infrastructure	3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care	4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council
<b>Aims:</b>	Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.	A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.	Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.	Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.

The Area Plan links to Newport City Council’s Corporate Plan and Wellbeing Objectives. It looks to improve the wellbeing of people who need care and support through integration and partnership working, to transform health and social care in Gwent. People are at the heart of the Area Plan and all the work we do, as we work in coproduction with citizens so they can share their expertise and experiences, to help shape services and support across the region.

### 6 Impact Assessment:

6.1 The Regional Partnership Team worked closely with Local Authority officers developing the Regional Public Service Board Wellbeing Assessment for Gwent to ensure close alignment with the RPB’s Population Needs Assessment. Population data and future trends were shared to avoid duplication of effort and this also included equality impact assessments across statutory groups

#### 6.2 Summary of impact – Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

The report notes that the Area Plan is designed to translate the requirements of the Act into measurable and substantive action, and that a regional Well-being Assessment has been developed in parallel with the Population Needs Assessment to ensure a shared approach to improved well-being is established. The report also emphasises the importance of considering the Well-being of Future Generations in the planning and delivery of services.

#### 6.3 Summary of impact – Equality Act 2010

The report emphasises the importance of promoting equality and reducing inequalities in the planning and delivery of services across the Gwent region. The report also highlights the need to engage with people in the area, including children who have or may have needs for care and support.

#### 6.4 **Summary of impact – Socio-economic Duty**

The Area Plan report demonstrates a commitment to promoting social and economic well-being in the planning and delivery of services across the Gwent region.

#### 6.5 **Summary of impact – Welsh language**

The Area Plan notes that people in the area should be supported to receive care and support through the Welsh language if they want it.

### 7. **Background Papers**

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#)
- [Socio-economic Duty Guidance](#)
- [Public Sector Equality Duty](#)
- [Welsh Language Measure 2015](#)
- [Population Needs Assessment 2022/2023](#)
- [Newport Integrated Service Partnership Board \(ISPB\) Plan \(as referred in Section 2.9\)](#)

**Report Completed:** 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023