



**NEWPORT**  
CITY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR DINAS  
CASNEWYDD

# MID-YEAR REVIEW

REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2022-24



# Contents

	<b>Page No.</b>
Introduction	2
Head of Service Executive Summary	3
2023/24 Mid-year Overview	4
Programmes and Projects	6
Workforce Development	11
Objectives and Actions	12
Performance Measures	23
Case Studies	24
Glossary	25

## Strategic Leads

Leader of Newport City Council	Councillor Jane Mudd
Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Regulation & Housing	Councillor James Clarke
Cabinet Member for Community Well-being	Councillor Deb Harvey
Chief Executive	Beverly Owen
Head of Regeneration & Economic Development	Tracey Brooks



# Introduction

Newport City Council's Corporate Plan 2022-27 has four Well-being Objectives to support its mission to deliver an Ambitious, Fairer and Greener Newport for everyone and contribute towards Wales' Well-being Goals set in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. To support the delivery of these objectives, strategic priorities, and deliver continuous improvement each service area has developed their service plan. This report provides the Mid-Year progress against the Regeneration & Economic Development Service Plan 2022-24 (23/24).

The Regeneration and Economic Development service area supports the Chief Executive Directorate and is responsible for delivering the statutory land use planning function to enable the City to grow in a sustainable manner and ensure the delivery of the Council's regeneration priorities. The service includes planning policy and development management along with historic building conservation and the building control function. The Regeneration Team develop and deliver a variety of grant funded regeneration programmes and provide support for businesses and inward investors as we seek to stimulate economic growth and investment across the City Centre and wider City. Culture and Heritage is also an important part of the service as we seek to develop and promote facilities such as the Museum and Art Gallery, the Transporter Bridge and the Newport Medieval Ship and celebrate our diverse and rich culture. The Regeneration Team also oversees the delivery of the Council's sport and leisure facilities contract which is delivered by Newport Live. The Economic Development Team delivers work and skills support to residents in order to support them into employment and ensure they have the necessary skills required to fulfil their potential. The Team also provides tourism and events support, alongside marketing Newport as a great place to live, work and invest in.

## Service Area Objectives

**Objective 1** - Encourage and support continued economic growth within the City, with particular focus on strategic projects and regeneration in the City Centre.

**Objective 2** - Creating a vibrant and proud city where our tourism, destination, culture, leisure and heritage offer will be improved and promoted through events and marketing.

**Objective 3** - Newport residents will be supported into work and increasing their employment opportunities.

**Objective 4** - Support the sustainable and resilient growth of the City and seek to protect heritage and relevant landscape features through effective use land use planning regulations.

# Head of Service Executive Summary

There have been a number of key successes over the past 6 months. Highlights include the delivery of the Wales National Armed Forces Day in June and the Building Control team winning two Local Authority Building Control, 'Building Excellence' Regional Awards for their involvement in the delivery of the Pobl development at Treberth Crescent and the redevelopment of the Newport Indoor Market. The Regeneration team has also continued to deliver strategic regeneration projects including the Transporter Bridge and the second phase of the Market Arcade refurbishment. Delivery of the Local Investment Plan, associated with the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) is being coordinated by the Economic Development team and we have seen a number of partners supported with funding to deliver programmes and events such as the Newport Rising Festival, Black History Month and Wales Tech Week.

The replacement Local Development Plan is progressing well and we are working towards seeking Cabinet and Council approval in September to launch a consultation on the Preferred Strategy in October. Good progress is also being made in addressing priority empty properties, including TJ's, Clarence Place and notices have been served on a number of other properties in order to address the unsightly appearance of the property.

The Business Support Team continue to help businesses access advice and financial support through the City of Newport Business Grants and new Accelerated Growth Grants via SPF funding. We are also working towards the delivery of the Newport Food Festival in a new 3 day format and the team has supported the successful delivery of the Newport Wales Marathon and the Pride in the Port event.

Our work and skills teams continue to provide excellent support to young people and residents in need of assistance to find work or training opportunities. They provide targeted support in the form of mentoring, training and facilitating work placements and taster sessions. Programmes are open to all but specific programmes have been developed which target young people, over 50's and those with identified barriers to employment. The Team delivered another very successful jobs fair in the Newport Market in May 2023 which saw over 400 people engaging with 37 employers. The Newport Youth Academy continue to support some of our most vulnerable young people in gaining the necessary skills and qualifications to find work and careers.

The RED team have also experienced some challenges over the last year, including ongoing deliberations regarding the implementation of the new Technical Advice Note 15 on Flooding as well as significant staff recruitment and retention issues within the Planning service. Whilst this is a problem which is being experienced on a national scale, Managers are thinking creatively and we have recruited new trainees in an attempt to support more people into the profession. As a result we have seen a positive improvement in the performance of the Planning team in determining planning applications within Welsh Government timescales.

Our key focus going forward will be in delivering key strategies and projects, including those funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund as well as the new Leisure and Well-being Centre. We will also be analysing the results of the public consultation on the Preferred Strategy for the replacement Local Development Plan as we progress towards the Deposit Plan stage in approximately 12 months' time.

We have our sights firmly set on the future Newport and our greatest asset throughout this last period remains the Regeneration and Economic Development staff. They continually seek to help and support residents and businesses as well as creating resilient and sustainable places and spaces. They approach their work with positive professionalism, trying to find solutions to any problems posed and going the extra mile in order to ensure that we deliver good quality outcomes for the city, its residents and businesses.

# Regeneration & Economic Development 2023/24 Overview

## Service Plan Objectives

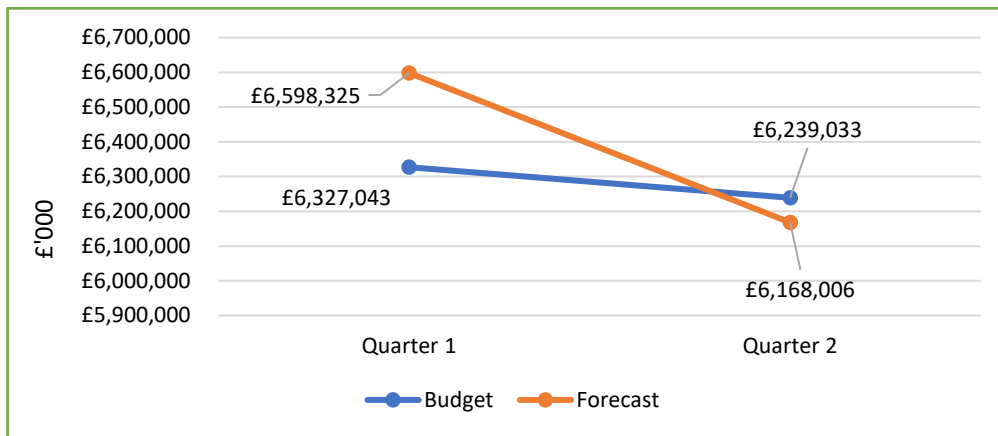
Objective	Mid-Year Status (Red / Amber / Green)
<b>Objective 1</b> - Encourage and support continued economic growth within the City, with particular focus on strategic projects and regeneration in the City Centre.	Green
<b>Objective 2</b> - Creating a vibrant and proud city where our tourism, destination, culture, leisure and heritage offer will be improved and promoted through events and marketing.	Amber
<b>Objective 3</b> - Newport residents will be supported into work and increasing their employment opportunities.	Green
<b>Objective 4</b> - Support the sustainable and resilient growth of the City and seek to protect heritage and relevant landscape features through effective use land use planning regulations.	Green

## Service Area Risks

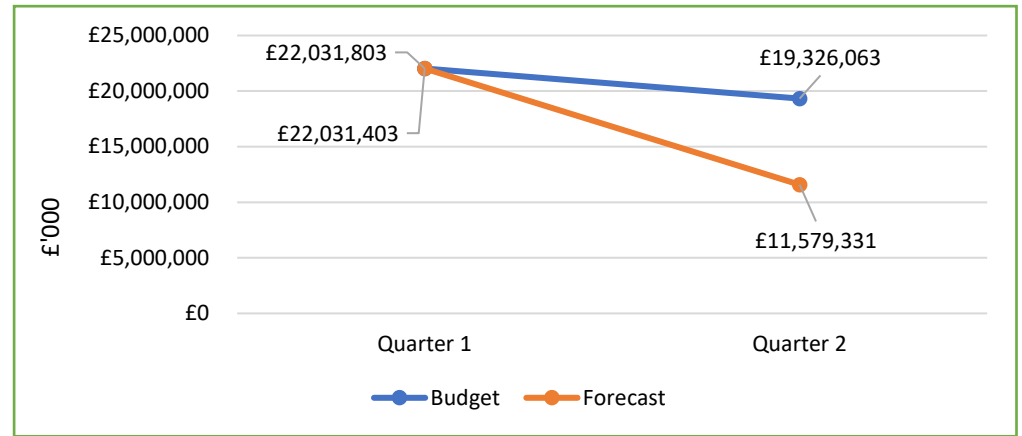
Risk	Corporate / Service Risk	Inherent Risk Score	Target Risk Score	Quarterly Risk Scores (Q3 2022/23 to Q2 23/24)			
				Quarter 3 22/23	Quarter 4 22/23	Quarter 1 23/24	Quarter 2 23/24
Replacement Local Development Plan not delivered on time / budget.	Service	9	2	9	9	9	9
Delivery of Leisure & Well-being Centre	Service	12	4	12	12	12	12
Transporter Bridge / Visitor Centre not delivered to time / budget / scope	Service	8	6	8	8	12	12
Shared Prosperity Fund	Service	12	4	8	8	6	6

## Service Area Finance Forecast (End of Quarter 2)

### Revenue Forecast



### Capital Forecast



# Programmes and Projects

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<b>Transporter Bridge/ Visitor Centre</b>	The delivery of the Visitor Centre which will attract visitors into the city generating income and promoting economic growth. This will contribute towards the long term objectives of supporting the maintenance of the Transporter Bridge and expanding upon the cultural offer of Newport. This will support the Council's Economic Growth Strategy, Corporate Plan commitment to revitalise the city centre and proposed cultural strategy.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 4 2024/25	40%	Visitor Centre construction is proceeding well and building frame is complete. Cladding works are progressing and completion of the building is expected in Spring 2024. Work is also progressing on the refurbishment and restoration of the Bridge. Inclement weather has impacted progress but this was anticipated when working at height on a structure which spans the River. Bridge works are expected to complete in Q3 2024/25.
<b>Market Arcade</b>	The Heritage Lottery Heritage Funding has enabled architectural details to be restored and the aim is to reconnect owners, traders and visitors to the role the Market Arcade played in the growth of Newport. This will also support the Council's Economic Growth Strategy and Corporate Plan commitment to revitalise the city centre.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 4 2023/24	90%	Final property refurbishment and interior works which form the second phase of works have commenced, including works to 12/13 High St. Programme remains on course to complete in March 2024.

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<b>Former IAC Building, Mill Street</b>	Refurbishment of the building to provide high spec office accommodation. Scope of works has now been amended to cover internal fit out of the building following additional funding from CCR. This will support the Council's Economic Growth Strategy, Corporate Plan commitment to re-vitalise the city centre.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 3 2023/24	75%	Developer has reported increasing costs to complete construction phase and is exploring additional funding options.
<b>Placemaking Programme (projects)</b>	Build on the legacy of recently completed projects through the Welsh Government Placemaking Programme. Subject to further grant funding, this fund will enable further investment into the Northern Gateway area of the city, diversifying the offer and mix of uses and adding value to schemes such as the Indoor Market, Info Station and Market Arcade.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 4 2023/24	55%	First grant awards completed under revised Welsh Government framework - projects commenced at 4-5 North St and Gem 42 restaurant.
<b>Information Station</b>	Relocation of the Council's Customer Services to the Central Library and Museum building and redevelopment of the office space into co-working and tech incubation space for Tramshed Tech. This will support the Council's Economic Growth Strategy and Corporate Plan commitment to re-vitalise the city centre.	Well-being Objective 1 Well-being Objective 4	Quarter 2 2023/24	95%	Project complete with opening date scheduled for 26th October 2023.



Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<b>Newport Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)</b>	Creation of an LDP is a statutory duty. The plan will include policies used to determine all planning applications in Newport. It will also identify land for development, helping with economic growth, and it will protect and enhance our best environmental and historical assets. This is in line with the Corporate Plan's priority to support sustainable economic growth and strong placemaking across our communities.	Well-being Objective 1 Well-being Objective 2	Quarter 4 2025/26	40%	Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) project proceeding in line with approved Delivery Agreement. The Preferred Strategy (Pre-Deposit Plan) received endorsement from Cabinet and Council in September 2023 and will progress to formal consultation in October 2023 for a period of 8 weeks. Expected adoption for RLDP is Q4 2025/26. In respect of Technical Advice Note 15, implementation has been delayed until 2024.
<b>DWP Restart Programme</b>	The new £2.9 billion Restart scheme announced at the Spending Review on 25 November 2020, will give Universal Credit claimants who have been out of work for at least 12 months enhanced support to find jobs in their local area. Restart will break down any employment barriers that could be holding them back from finding work. Providers will work with employers, local government, and other partners to deliver tailored support for individuals. This supports Council's Economic Growth Strategy and Corporate Plan commitment to provide equitable opportunities for people to retrain, learn new skills and find long term work.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 4 2025/26	50%	We have supported a further 41 participants into work, The programme has been expanded to include participants who have claimed Universal Credit for more than 6 months and support is provided in the form of coaching, interview skills, CV writing and training. Mandatory work placement trials are being introduced and failure to participate can lead to full removal of the Universal Credit Standard allowance. Funding for this programme has been extended for a further 2 years until March 2026.

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<b>City Centre Leisure and Well-being Centre</b>	New leisure centre facility to be constructed on Riverside site adjacent to the City centre and knowledge quarter. Building will include fully accessible leisure pool facility and sports venues with café and room hire availability. Design innovation will help achieve BREEAM excellence and carbon zero options. Project is being supported with a grant from Welsh Government and will maintain the offer of swimming, sports and leisure within the city centre. This will support the Council's Corporate Plan commitment to re-vitalise the city centre.	Well-being Objective 1 Well-being Objective 2	Quarter 3 2025/26	45%	Design refinement ongoing in order to ensure that the building is embedding renewable energy and circular economy principles from the outset. RIBA Stage 3 was concluded in September with further enabling works commencing in February 2024. Construction on the main building is expected to commence in June 2024. Demolition of the Newport Centre is due to be completed in December 2023.
<b>National Technology Institute</b>	Development of a new training and qualifications facility within the city centre which provides a different learning offer for people and employers looking for non-traditional training and qualifications to meet the changing needs of businesses. This will be an employer led facility where course content and duration reflects the needs of existing and growing businesses.	Well-being Objective 1	Quarter 3 2025/26	20%	Investigating delivery models and funding options.

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<b>Shared Prosperity Funding Programme</b>	<p>In April 2022 the UK Government published details of the new £2.6bn Shared Prosperity Fund which seeks to support the Government's Levelling Up objectives in three investment priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Communities and Place</li> <li>•Supporting Local Business; and</li> <li>•People and Skills</li> </ul> <p>There is also a fund called Multiply, which seeks to improve adult numeracy skills. Newport's allocation of funding is just over £27m for core spend and a further £5.6m for Multiply over the next 3 years.</p>	<p>Well-being Objective 1</p> <p>Well-being Objective 2</p>	<p>Quarter 4 2024/25</p>	<p>50%</p>	<p>Programme governance in place and 48 approved projects are in delivery phase. Funding for cultural events including Newport Rising Festival and Black History Month have been awarded. Working in partnership with GAVO will see increased support for volunteering and social enterprise projects. Cost of Living Advisors have been appointed and food safety training and courses are being provided for new businesses to support them with first inspections. New project proposals are being received and assessed for strategic fit and deliverability within the programme. Projects include funding for The Reality Theatre Company for renovation and refurbishment of their community base and support for the Wales Tech Week event, Full details of how to submit a new proposal are provided on the NCC website.</p>

# Workforce Development

To support workforce development across Regeneration & Economic Development the following actions have been identified as priority between 2022-24.

Action	Outcome(s) of Action Delivery	Action Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
Regeneration and Economic Development to review their areas to identify opportunities for development and introducing new apprenticeship, trainee, students and graduate schemes.	Improve RED resilience and future succession planning.	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	60%	Training Plans are in place and one member of staff is being supported to undertake a post graduate course. Three Planning Students have been recruited on a 'year out in industry' basis. Corporate apprenticeships scheme enabled via SPF is being developed in order to support development of talent across the Local Authority.
Regeneration and Economic Development Service Managers in collaboration with Human Resources undertake a review of job descriptions to identify future skill and knowledge gaps.	This review will identify the future skills and needs required to deliver RED services and support any future strategic structure reviews.	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	45%	Process for reviewing JDs agreed with HR. Majority of roles in Development Management have been reviewed and several JDs have been finalised following consultation with staff. Managers are progressing with reviews across Regeneration and Place and Economic Development.
Regeneration, and Economic Development in collaboration with Human Resources review succession plans in the service area.	Build up resilience in the service area and as part of its talent management encourage and develop skills of staff to enable succession planning.	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	75%	All staff asked to consider training requirements as part of one to ones and include in areas for development. Training Plan being formulated to identify future training needs in order to support staff with progression.

# Objectives and Action Plan Update

**Objective 1** - Encourage and support continued economic growth within the City, with particular focus on strategic projects and regeneration in the City Centre.

## Objective 1 Mid-Year Assessment

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Encourage inward investment and support growth of new and existing businesses within the City, through proactive business support and as part of Regional partnerships.	Newport attracts new businesses into the City through our excellent geographic location and connectivity, and strengthens our existing growth sectors in tech, digital, data, advanced manufacturing and hospitality. Existing businesses are supported to grow and we create a resilient and sustainable business mix across the city. Proactive place marketing will be undertaken and the Investment Prospectus will be updated and used at appropriate investment and marketing events to raise investor awareness in Newport.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	75%	Enhanced business support package launched for 23/24 and open to applications. 15 applications for City of Newport grant scheme submitted to date, with a further 17 in progress. An enhanced, Shared Prosperity Funded Capital investment grant programme will be launched in October, offering higher levels of support to companies wishing to make a business investment in Newport. International Soft Landing Platform launched in partnership with Welsh Government and is hosted by Tramshed Tech in the new Innovation Station. Support, advise and signposting assistance has been provided to over 350 businesses between Apr and Sept 2023.



Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
2	Secure Funding from sources such as the Transforming Towns fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and UK Government funding for regeneration projects in the City Centre, including placemaking projects and strategic projects.	Additional funding being secured to support new uses and improved buildings and spaces in the City Centre as well as strategic regeneration projects which have the potential to bring increased footfall, employment or investment to the City.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	90%	Newport was awarded over £33m of Shared Prosperity Funding. Cabinet approved the Local Investment Plan in May 2023 and 48 projects are currently in the delivery phase.
3	Development of a new Placemaking Plan for the City Centre which provides a targeted framework for regeneration, refurbishment and investment across the City Centre.	An update to the City Centre Master Plan which builds upon key projects which have been delivered such as the Indoor Market, Market Arcade and 4* Chartist Hotel. The plan will consider the need for green spaces and also reflect the projects in progress including the development of a new leisure and well-being centre and National Technology Institute.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2024	40%	Revised guidance issued by Welsh Government and Design Commission For Wales in respect of content of plans and supporting brief. Proposed scope and brief realigned to reflect new guidance. Proposing to issue invitation to tender in October 2023.

**Objective 2 - Creating a vibrant and proud city where our tourism, destination, culture, leisure and heritage offer will be improved and promoted through events and marketing.**

**Objective 2 Mid-Year Assessment**

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Develop and adopt a Cultural Strategy	An important part of the delivery of this objective is the creation of a robust and ambitious strategy which has been developed through engagement and collaboration with our communities. The strategy will capture what makes Newport a rich, diverse and proud City and what we will do to develop, promote and celebrate our culture and heritage.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2024	30%	Brief for a consultant to support the development of the cultural strategy has been developed and will be issued for tender in November 2023. This strategy will celebrate and champion the City's unique culture alongside its physical assets. We want to showcase the uniqueness of Wales' fastest growing city and understand where there is further opportunity to recognise and promote our culture and heritage. It will complement the City Council's Corporate Plan, and Placemaking Plan, and link to other relevant existing and emerging strategic documents.
2	Review and promote our Museum and Art Gallery offer to encourage more engagement and interaction, ensuring that opportunities to host new collections and events are explored.	The provision of spaces and technology which showcases our art and heritage artefacts in a stimulating and interactive way which is also accessible and inclusive. This will contribute towards our commitment to promote Newport as a destination for our communities and visitors to explore and celebrate our culture and heritage.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	65%	IPads are being installed to allow visitors to be inspired by the works on display and then search our online digitised collections whilst in the space. Strengthening our partnership with Cadw through collaborative tours of the High Street, Market Arcade and Newport Castle as part of Open Doors 2023. Tours were incredibly popular and exploring possibility of running these more frequently. Working with Central Library to enhance our joint offer within the building.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
3	To develop a long term strategy for the storage and display of the medieval ship.	Through collaboration with Welsh Government and other strategic partners we shall develop a long term strategy that will secure a permanent location for the medieval ship as a key tourist attraction for the City. This will contribute towards our commitment to promote Newport as a destination for our communities and visitors to explore and celebrate our heritage.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	50%	Increased visitor figures following the Open Day in July. Draft programme for events in 2024 has been set including a school event based on Medieval Music and dancing,. A feasibility and options study will be going out to tender in the new year. Working with the designers of the Mary Rose guidebook to produce a new version of the Newport Ship guidebook, ready in Spring 2024.
4	Review and update the destination management plan to reflect the Newport offer in a proactive and engaging way.	Better promotion of Newport using proactive and targeted marketing can support inward investment opportunities and the visitor economy.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2024	30%	External partnerships formed through the previous plan have been maintained, including work on the Living Levels, and liaison with the Newport Hoteliers group. The brief for the new Destination Management Plan is being sequenced to ensure alignment with the new Cultural Strategy and Placemaking Plan.
5	Successful delivery of corporate events and support with the delivery of elite sport and community events which reflects our cultural, sport, leisure and heritage offer.	Through collaboration with national organisations, Newport Live and ICCW, we can continue to promote and host international events. We will also support community groups and stakeholders to develop a calendar of inclusive and accessible events will give the City a positive vibrancy and raise awareness of our heritage and our cultural diversity.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	80%	A number of events have been delivered including the D Day memorial service, Armed Forces Flag raising ceremony, Fly the red ensign for the Merchant Navy, 999 Emergency services day and Wales National Armed Forces Day. Support has also been provided for the Newport Marathon and Pride in the Port Preparatory work is ongoing around the 3 day Food Festival in October.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
6	Develop a Place Marketing Plan which promotes Newport as a great place to live, work, learn, visit and invest in.	The place website is an effective and interactive platform to promote Newport. Alongside effective use of social media to raise awareness of local events, activities and our local heritage, we can ensure that visitors and residents are fully informed and recognise the positive benefits of being part of the Newport community and visiting the City. The Investment Prospectus is also regularly updated and used at appropriate events to raise investor awareness in Newport.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2024	20%	Benchmarking with peer locations has been undertaken as part of the development of a revised plan. The brief is being sequenced to ensure alignment with the new Destination Management Plan and opportunities to develop a joint plan. Marketing literature is being updated.

**Objective 3 - Working towards being a Living Wage City by working in partnership with businesses to gain accreditation as Living Wage Employers and helping Newport residents to retrain, learn new skills and find long term work**

**Objective 3 Mid-Year Assessment**

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Become a recognised Living Wage City.	Working together with communities and businesses we will seek to tackle issues of low pay within Newport. We will seek to bring together a group of prominent Newport employers to form a Living Wage Action Group and develop a 3 year action plan to make Newport a Living Wage City.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	20%	Objective co-owned between RED and PP&T. Seeking to commission research into the specific way forward for Newport, reflective of its skills, industrial structure and demography.
2	Delivery of employment and skills support across the City.	Ensuring there is access to suitable and accessible venues and facilities for the delivery of tailored employment and skills support in order to increase numbers of people accessing and benefitting from employment support. This will result in improved access to digital facilities and improved skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	80%	Job clubs operate across the city to support residents into employment. Locations include Pill, Gaer, Maindee Ringland, Bettws, Somerton and the City Centre. Classroom assistant level 2 training is being supported in primary schools, including St Michael's, Maindee and Maesglas. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes are delivered by the Communities for Work+ team and targeted support for the over 50's is being provided in partnership with the Department of Work and Pensions. This focusses on digital skills and support for women going through the menopause. We also delivered another very successful jobs fair in May with over 400 attendees and 37 employers present at the event. 63% of employers had arranged interviews for attendees with 37% of employers making subsequent job offers to people who had attended the jobs fair. Another event is planned for November.





Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
3	Provide employment and skills support for young people aged 16 to 24 through Communities for Work +	Engage 200 young people aged 16 to 24. 70 Job starts. 50 young people with additional Qualifications 10 young people in Further Education 6 young people supported into Volunteering/ Placements	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	35%	Young Persons Guarantee no longer exists as a standalone programme delivered by NCC but people aged 16-24 are still supported by the Communities for Work+ (CFW+) programme. Youth specific mentors are employed and work alongside the wider CFW+ team across the city. Two specific youth hubs are operated in Pill and Ringland and are supported by partners including DWP and Working Wales. In Q1, 82 young people were enrolled on the programme and 29 job starts.
4	Continue to develop skills and qualification opportunities through the Youth Academy in order to reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET).	Working with 49 young people to deliver the following targets annually. Positive Progression Rate – 75% Activity Success Rate – 65% Attendance – 85%	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026	35%	32 young people are registered with the youth academy with 12 positively progressing as part of the 12 month programme.
5	Provide employment and skills support through the DWP Restart Employability Programme.	Assist long term unemployed residents and offer training and qualifications to help resident's secure sustainable employment and to reduce in-work poverty. Achieve all Customer Service Standards and programme outcome targets in line with DWP and Serco expectations.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	50%	We currently have 237 active participants, with 41 in employment and receiving in-work support. We have 196 participants on caseload and needing our support to gain employment.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
6	Organise and support the delivery of job fairs and recruitment activities to connect employers with the local workforce.	With partners, deliver at least one event per quarter. This may be single sector or across multiple sectors.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 8	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026	35%	<p>We also delivered another very successful jobs fair in May with over 400 attendees and 37 employers present at the event. 63% of employers had arranged interviews for attendees with 37% of employers making subsequent job offers to people who had attended the jobs fair. Another event is planned for November.</p> <p>The team are also working with employers such as Starbucks, Starling Bank, Lidl and the Celtic Manor Resort to offer work trials and tasters to showcase the employment opportunities which are available.</p>

**Objective 4 - Support the sustainable and resilient growth of the City and seek to protect heritage and relevant landscape features through effective use land use planning regulations.**

**Objective 4 Mid-Year Assessment**

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Adopt a replacement Local Development Plan which will provide the land use planning framework for the growth and protection of Newport up until 2036.	An up to date development plan which reflects the economic growth ambitions of the City whilst also seeking to protect historic buildings and landscape features from inappropriate development.	WBO 1 Strategic Priority 1 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 2 Climate Change Plan	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	50%	The Preferred Strategy has been approved by Cabinet and Council for consultation, along with the relevant evidence base and supporting documents. The consultation will run for 8 weeks from October to December with a number of community events planned.
2	Work collaboratively across the Cardiff Capital Region to develop a Strategic Development Plan.	Through collaboration we shall contribute towards the development of the Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region, in line with the requirements of the Corporate Joint Committee. This will deliver a regional planning policy document which sits between the National Plan, Future Wales and the Council's adopted Local Development Plan. It will focus on issues of regional importance such as green belts and regional growth targets which will inform the replacement local development plan.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 2	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026	5%	The South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) has been established. SDP team expected to be created in 2024/25. Evidence base is being gathered as part of replacement Local Development Plans across the region.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
3	Support the development of good quality buildings and places, as well as preserve protected heritage buildings, features and countryside spaces from inappropriate development.	Effective decision making through the statutory planning function can help support sustainable economic growth, good quality buildings and strong placemaking across Newport's communities.	WBO 1 Strategic Priority 1 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 2	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	70%	All appeal decisions are reported to Planning Committee for awareness and appropriate training is provided for Planning Committee members.
4	Use effective enforcement powers to protect against inappropriate development and bring back some of the City's long standing vacant and derelict properties.	A priority list of properties and sites will be developed and a collaborative approach will be taken across all service areas to use regulatory powers to tackle these properties with a view to seeing them refurbished and brought back into use.	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 3 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 2	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	80%	New Senior Enforcement Officer appointed in May 2023 to lead on the progression of priority cases. Authorisation for Urgent Works Notice granted for the Drill Hall and the Maltings. A planning application has subsequently been submitted on the Drill Hall and the Maltings has been assessed by a Conservation accredited surveyor to outline the required works. Section 79 Notices have been authorised for 17-18 Upper Dock Street and a notice has been served on 39 Commercial Road. There has been positive progress on TJ's, Clarence Place with the repair works on the front facade having been undertaken and the scaffolding removed. We continue to press for the completion of works to the shopfront in order to enable the removal of the hoarding.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q2 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
5	Ensure all developments are fully aligned with Planning Policy Wales 11, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Placemaking Wales Charter to deliver sustainable development and ensure climate resilience.	The annual LDP monitoring report reviews and evaluates incidences of non-conformity with the development plan. Dip samples are undertaken of planning applications to ensure that sustainable travel is being proposed along with climate resilience measures considered appropriately (flooding, air quality, nature based solutions, heat networks, etc).	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 2 / Strategic Priority 2 Climate Change Plan	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	65%	There has been continued promotion of placemaking in compliance with Planning Policy Wales, Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and Placemaking Charter. All major applications go to Committee. Appeal decisions are shared for learning amongst the team and with Committee Members.



# Performance Measures

Annual performance measures are not included in the Mid-Year review and will be reported as part of 23/24 End of Year Review.

Note: Performance measures which do not have targets will be assessed in comparison to previous year's performance.

Performance Measure / Description	End of Year Performance (21/22 to 22/23)			Mid-Year Performance 23/24		
	Actual 2021/22	Actual 2022/23	Actual Q2 2022/23	Actual Q2 2023/24	Target 2023/24	Commentary
Percentage of all planning applications determined in time.	62.4%	66.5%	65.5% (313 / 478)	83.3% (373 / 448)	66%	Performance has significantly improved following an increased focus on timely decisions and the recruitment of student planners.
Percentage of all planning decisions successfully defended at appeal.	76.9%	71.4%	60% (12 / 20)	57.14% (12 / 21)	66%*	Planning is often subjective in respect of matters such as design. We aim to make good quality decisions in the interests of our residents and seek to learn from decisions.
Number of businesses supported through the provision of advice and guidance	3,922	231	231	350	N/A Comparator Measure	Support, advise and signposting assistance has been provided to over 350 businesses between Apr and Sept 2023.
Number of people supported into employment by the work and skills team.	348	378	205	239	380 (Q2 Target - 190)	The Work & Skills team continue to positively engage with residents to support them into employment, this includes supporting people with health issues and encouraging improved skills and qualifications.
(New) Number of events supported or led by the Council	No Data	30	15	14	30 (Q2 Target - 15)	A number of events have been delivered including the D Day memorial service, Armed Forces Flag raising ceremony, Fly the Red Ensign for the Merchant Navy, 999 Emergency Day and Wales National Armed Forces Day. Support has also been provided for the Newport Marathon and Pride in the Port.

\*Reflects Welsh Government targets.

# Case Studies, Key Achievements, Awards

## Awards

The Building Control team scooped two awards in the Annual Local Authority Building Control Building Excellence Regional Awards and will progress to the LABC Grand Finals in London in January 2024. The awards were for “Best Purpose Built Accommodation” for Treberth Crescent, Newport (below) (project team: JG Hale Construction Ltd, Ainsley Gammon Architects and Pobl Group) and “Best Non-Residential Extension, Alteration or Conversion” for Newport Provisions Market, LoftCo (project team: LoftCo, Amser Building Services and Ellis Williams Architects)



## Impact of the Service

Youth Academy Participant Video - [NYA Learners Journey - Liam Holmes - YouTube](#)

## Key Achievements – Wales National Armed Forces Day



Photos : Wales Online

# Glossary

## Service Area Project / Action Assessment

RAG Status	Description
X%	Project / Action is not on track to deliver with major issues preventing the action being completed by the agreed ' <b>Target Date</b> '. Immediate management interventions is required to improve performance and escalation to Directorate Management Team and/or relevant Board.
X%	Project / Action is mainly on track with some minor issues which could prevent the Project / Action being completed by the agreed ' <b>Target Date</b> '. Management intervention(s) required to improve performance and close monitoring by the Head of Service / Service Management Team.
X%	Project / Action is on track to be completed by the Agreed ' <b>Target Date</b> '.
C	Project / Action has been successfully delivered

## Performance Measure Monitoring / Tolerance Assessment

Newport City Council has agreed a 15% tolerance against targets set in service plans.

RAG Status	Description
=>15%	Performance is under achieving against Target or previous year's performance. Immediate management intervention and escalation to Directorate Management Board is required.
<15%	Performance is off target or Previous Year's Performance but within a variance of 15%. Management intervention and close monitoring by the Head of Service / Service Management Team is required.
	Performance is achieving / succeeding against its agreed Target or Previous Year's Performance.

## Risk Assessment Matrix

Probability	5	5 - Moderate	10 - Major	15 - Severe	20 - Severe	25 - Severe
	4	4 - Moderate	8 - Moderate	12 - Major	16 - Severe	20 - Severe
	3	3 - Low	6 - Moderate	9 - Major	12 - Major	15 - Severe
	2	2 - Low	4 - Moderate	6 - Moderate	8 - Moderate	10 - Major
	1	1 - Very Low	2 - Low	3 - Low	4 - Moderate	5 - Moderate
		1	2	3	4	5
		Impact				

## Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
CFW+	Communities For Work +
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
LDP	Local Development Plan
NEET	Not in Employment, Education or Training
SPF	Shared Prosperity Fund