

Report

Cabinet



Part 1

Date: 5 May 2021

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.

Author Chief Executive
Head of People and Business Change

Ward All

Summary The Covid-19 health emergency has been ongoing for over a year when Newport received its first reports in February 2020. This crisis 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.

Since the last Cabinet Report in April, restrictions have been easing with the Council and its partners continuing to monitor 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.

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 7th April 2021, Newport Council and its partners have continued to monitor the Covid-19 cases in the City through its role at the multi-agency Strategic Co-ordination Group (SCG), the Council's Recovery Group (Covid Gold) and liaison with Welsh Government (WG) and Public Health Wales partners.

NCC Covid-19 Response

In April Wales had continued to see further reductions in the Covid-19 case rate falling below 30 per 100,000 across Wales and the continued success of the vaccine rollout across the priority groups in Wales. The latest figures relating to Covid-19 cases and vaccination rollout can be accessed through the [Public Health Wales Covid-19 Dashboards](#). Over 1.5 million people in Wales have received their first dose of the vaccine whilst over 500,000 will have received their second dose. The Council, alongside Newport Live have been supporting the NHS with volunteers and facilities to help with the rollout of the vaccine. It is important that everyone including the City's BAME communities receive their vaccine and to also continue to follow the restrictions in place. Further information about the vaccine programme can be obtained from [Public Health Wales](#) and also includes Accessible information [here](#).

In consideration of the scientific data and as part of WG three week review process, further restrictions have been eased enabling the economy, schools and other sectors to re-open in conjunction with WG guidance. Since the last report in April, Wales has been slowly opening up and easing restrictions taking a cautious approach. In April and May depending upon the Welsh Government guidance it is planned for:

- From 26th April outdoor hospitality (pubs, cafes, restaurants); outdoor wedding receptions and outdoor activities were reopened.
- From 3rd May up to two families will be able to meet indoors with extended households with indoor facilities / activities such as gyms, leisure centres and fitness centres, children's indoor activities and community centres reopened.
- From 17th May indoor hospitality, cinemas, theatres and museums to reopen including organised activities such as wedding receptions allowed for up to 30 people.

Newport Council's services have continued to operate adhering to the restrictions in place. Many areas of the Council's buildings remained closed but front line services have remained operational. Residents and businesses can access the necessary information from the Council's [website](#) or contact the Council's contact centre.

Newport Council Activity and Progress in delivering Strategic Recovery Aims

Newport Council's Recovery Group (consisting of the Chief Executive and Heads of Service) are continuing to regularly meet to monitor and report on emerging Covid-19 issues; and to support the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales in implementing necessary legislative changes. In June 2020, this Cabinet agreed its Strategic Recovery Aims that have enabled the Council to recover its services and support the City's communities and economy to recover in addition to its commitment in delivering against its Wellbeing Objectives set in the Corporate Plan 2017-22. As part of the Council's Performance Framework, service areas aligned their Service Plans 2020/21 to the four Strategic Recovery Aims as well as providing monthly updates to Cabinet on their ongoing response to the Covid crisis.

At the end of every financial year, service areas provide their end of year review of its performance which are presented to the Council's Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet. Service area reviews also support the Council's Annual Report which self-reflects back on its performance in the year, lesson learned and its plans moving forward. This year's Annual Report 2020/21 will include a reflection back on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and how we have delivered against our Strategic Recovery Aims, how we will move forward in the final year of delivering this Corporate Plan and developing the next iteration of the Corporate Plan from 2022. Remaining actions and work from the Strategic Recovery Aims will be incorporated into their service plans for 2021/22.

Summarised below and also in Appendix 1 of this report, is a summary (by exception) of Council work to 1st May 2021:

Strategic Recovery Aim	Summary of Council's activities to 1 st May 2021
Strategic Recovery Aim 1 – Supporting Education & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with Welsh Government guidelines, schools fully reopened from 12th April. • Lateral flow tests are available for staff who work in schools and settings. Sufficient tests have been ordered for staff and these will be available for use twice a week on a voluntary basis from the start of the Summer Term 2021. • Where rate of attendance has fallen below 50% this academic year to date, Education Welfare Officers will be working to engage these pupils and their families from 12th April when school resumes for all pupils. • Out of the 3714 digital devices ordered using the WG EdTech funding, 3266 have been delivered to schools. • Work & Skills has been successful in securing a sub contract delivery offer from all Providers on the Commercial Agreement for the provision of Employment and Health Related Services (CAEHRS) Framework for the Department for Work & Pensions Restart Scheme. The successful provider will be announced in due course with an implementation period of 9 weeks.
Strategic Recovery Aim 2 – Supporting the Environment and the Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following an uplift to our Social Housing Grant funding for the financial year 2021/22, we will be working with Registered Social Landlords (RSL) partners over the coming weeks to identify additional affordable housing schemes suitable for this funding. • Planning application has been submitted by the Carbon Reduction Team for a 2.4MW Solar Farm to be built adjacent to Docksway Recycling Centre. This scheme will contribute towards the decarbonisation of the city.
Strategic Recovery Aim 3 – Supporting the Health & Wellbeing of Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vaccination programme delivered 2nd doses to the majority of social care staff and to all older people in care home settings. • Lateral flow tests are being distributed to providers and to NCC front facing social care staff to support recovery plans. • Integrated Care Funding confirmed for the development of a third residential home in Newport to ensure looked after children can be cared for in the city and closer to their families. • Newport Council delivering £9.4m Active Travel projects in Newport for 2021/22. • Newport Live's Sport Wales additional 'recovery' funding (21/22) will create a new engagement programme aimed at increasing physical activity levels and improving mental wellbeing as part of Covid recovery; building on the <i>#happyandhealthyathome</i> campaign.
Strategic Recovery Aim 4 – Supporting Citizens post Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory Budget funding was awarded to 24 projects which will provide support across a range of the worst affected groups and themes. • Re-open all libraries from 19th April with limited browsing at six sites whilst our three smallest sites will operate a click and collect service only. This will be the first time we have offered access across all our sites since the first Covid lockdown commenced.

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 3 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?
Covid 19 Pandemic Risk (Corporate Risk)	5	4	Mitigation measures outlined in the report.	Corporate Management Team

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 briefings.

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 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 is predominantly funded by the WG. A revenue budget monitor to end of November was reported to January Cabinet and confirmed a positive overall position for the Council and included the impact of the financial assistance provided from the Hardship Fund as well as the normal and routine budget issues that affect the Council.

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 previous 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. Since the last report, the numbers of cases being referred to TTP for contact tracing and the positivity rates have continued to reduce significantly, with the impact of the lock-down restrictions and the roll-out of increased testing and the vaccination programme. As the restrictions are relaxed, then further enforcement work will be required, to ensure that businesses continue to comply with the revised Regulations and guidance and that proper safety measures are in place.

Comments of Head of People and Business Change

Newport Council has continued to build on the strong collaborative work through 2020/21. The Strategic Recovery Aims alongside the Council's Corporate Plan has enabled the Council to focus on its core delivery requirements whilst ensuring we comply with the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales legislation. The role of Civil Contingencies, emergency planning, and the Council's Test, Trace and Protect has been vital to ensure the risk to the City's communities are minimised and that the Council continues to deliver its services to residents and businesses.

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.

The HR implications are as outlined in the report as we continue to support the workforce through provision of equipment and a range of wellbeing measures.

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

Not Applicable

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, 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

[Responding to the 'New Normal' Report to Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee](#)

Dated: 28 April 2021

Appendix 1 – Progress of Delivery against Strategic Recovery Aims (to 1st May 2021)

<p>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.</p>	
<p>Supports Wellbeing Objective 1 – To improve skills, education and employment opportunities.</p>	
Strategic Aim Step	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Support schools and other educational establishments to safely reopen for staff and pupils.	<p>In line with Welsh Government Guidance, all schools fully reopened on Monday 12th April.</p> <p>School meals services were fully operational across all schools from 12th April, and therefore the supermarket voucher scheme ceased at the end of the spring term. Notwithstanding this, vouchers will continue to be issued on an ad-hoc basis in relation to any free school meal eligible pupils who are unable to attend school for a short period due to a need to self-isolate, and to cover school holiday periods until Easter 2022.</p> <p>Where appropriate, and supported by individual risk assessments, Breakfast Club provisions will be reinstated across all schools.</p> <p>Through the Passenger Transport Unit, home to school transport was available for all eligible learners from the start of the summer term on 12th April.</p> <p>School cleaning services procured through Newport Norse are operating appropriately and within the terms of individual Service Level Agreements.</p> <p>As at the end of the spring term, there were no requests to the Education Service from schools for priority testing for symptomatic pupils.</p> <p>Lateral flow tests are available for staff who work in schools and settings. Sufficient tests have been ordered for staff and these will be available for use twice a week on a voluntary basis from the start of the Summer Term 2021.</p>
Work to prevent and reduce inequality of progress and outcomes in education for mainstream and vulnerable learners.	Education Welfare Officers continue to work closely with schools. They have identified 656 pupils with a rate of attendance that falls below 50% this academic year to date. The Education Welfare Officers will be working to engage these pupils and their families from 12 th April when school resumes for all pupils.
Support schools to enhance and develop digital skills; digital teaching and learning platforms;	As of 1 st April 2021, out of the 3714 digital devices ordered using the WG EdTech funding, 3266 have been delivered to schools. This includes: 1746 chrome books, 695 laptops and 404 Apple devices. The SRS will be working to configure all remaining devices and deliver them to schools by the start of the Spring Term 2021.

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
and enhanced support for digitally excluded learners	From 1 st April 2021, EdTech funding is available to pay the carrier charges on 502 MiFi devices up to 31 st July 2021. To support pupils who need access to connectivity and do not have a MiFi device, Welsh Government has negotiated mobile data uplifts with a number of mobile network operators (BT Mobile, EE, SMARTY, Tesco Mobile, Three, Virgin Mobile and Vodafone). To date, 149 parents who have existing contracts with these providers have applied for mobile data uplifts via the school and local authority.
Support and enable people that are digitally excluded to access community IT programmes, Council services and other public services.	Additional laptops have been purchased out of the Legacy funding to support IT resource for residents across the City. Public PC access will re-commence at the Central Library from 19 th April. Public PC access will be established at other sites during May.
Support people who have been affected by unemployment to access new opportunities through training and re-employment required for post Covid 19 businesses.	Work & Skills has been successful in securing a sub contract delivery offer from all Providers on The Commercial Agreement for the provision of Employment and Health Related Services CAEHRS Framework for the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Restart Scheme. The successful provider will be announced in due course with an implementation period of 9 weeks. An additional 4 Kick start opportunities have been identified within the Housing Team.
Ensure our diverse communities are appropriately supported through tailored interventions specific to their needs, including consideration of language, culture and points of access.	Rural Development Programme Digital Transformation Project will run until the end of September 2021. Targeted at Seniors and using the KOMP device, it is a one button computer. KOMP will allow family members to make video calls, share photos and send messages to their relatives in a safe, secure and inclusive manner. This will help address loneliness for those unable to use more complex devices. Newport will be trialling 10 of these devices and we are in the process of identifying potential users. Tablets and dongles have also been provided for those residents most in need via the REACH Programme (Refugee Integration). Through the Child Development Fund, Flying Start has purchased 50 Tablets and 30 WiFi packs, to loan to families who would otherwise be digitally excluded from accessing these services. The first kits are due to go out w/c 8th March 2021 to families. Speech and Language/Parenting interventions continue to be delivered virtually. Newport Live's Alternative Education programme (vulnerable learners) is in full operation, with full-time and part-time pupil placements (30+ young people) via Bridge Achievement Service, and various Secondary Schools.

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
	<p>Positive Futures continue to engage with identified families ‘on their doorsteps’ working with children in a mentoring capacity, with children 15 children per week being met from Tredegar Park, Alway, Maindee and Pillgwenlly Primary Schools – linked to Safer Newport.</p> <p>The Levelling the Playing Fields project in Newport, part of a national programme with Alliance of Sport and the London Marathon Trust, using sport to engage and improve health / life outcomes of BAME children and young people who are at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System locally by Newport Live in partnership with Youth Justice Service.</p>

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
<p>Maintain our focus on regenerating Newport to deliver existing and new investment projects.</p>	<p>Roll out of WG Covid-19 support ongoing – 700 Spring Restrictions Grants paid totalling £1.4m plus 102 additional grants under the Cultural Freelancer scheme totalling £255k.</p> <p>Property Enhancement Grants awarded to support redevelopment of Kings Chambers and Olympia House</p>
<p>Enable and support the construction industry to re-establish the supply of new and affordable housing.</p>	<p>Following an uplift to our Social Housing Grant funding for the financial year 2021/22, we will be working with RSL partners over the coming weeks to identify additional affordable housing schemes suitable for this funding.</p>
<p>Enable and support businesses to re-establish normal operations whilst maintaining the health and safety of their workers and customers.</p>	<p>Regulatory Services will be supporting businesses reopening as restrictions are eased over the next two months.</p>
<p>Enable and support businesses to prepare for future trade arrangements resulting from Brexit negotiations.</p>	<p>See separate Brexit Report to Cabinet in May 2021. The Council is progressing with bids for the Levelling Up Fund and UK Community Renewal Fund which have to be submitted to UK Government by Noon 18th June 2021. The Council is continuing to work with partners to encourage and support EU Citizens with their EUSS applications which need to be completed by 30th June 2021.</p>

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Protect and improve the environment, including air quality and decarbonisation of the city for its residents, businesses and visitors.	<p>Planning application has been submitted by the Carbon Reduction Team for a 2.4MW Solar Farm to be built adjacent to Docksway Recycling Centre. This scheme will contribute towards the decarbonisation of the city.</p> <p>A Climate Change Workshop with Senior Managers in the Council took place on 16th of April. This is the first step for Newport Council in developing their own Climate Action Plan for the organisation, and how we can affect wider change in terms of the need for the whole City to decarbonise by 2050.</p> <p>The building retrofit project will target decarbonisation across the council's built estate. Invitation to Tender is currently being developed for first phase of works on 16 buildings.</p>
Continuing support and safe delivery of the Council's City services including waste, cleansing and highways.	City Services introduced its first electric refuse vehicle. The first one in Wales. The City Services are also making good progress installing new solar panels / farm to enable clean energy power its electric fleet. For Newport these are major steps in its work to becoming net zero carbon by 2030.

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Support people to remain living independently in their homes and communities.	For the first time there are no Newport care homes in incident and plans are being developed to safely resume indoor visits. Monitoring systems remain in place.
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.	The vaccination programme has delivered 2 nd doses to the majority of social care staff and to all older people in care home settings. Lateral flow tests are being distributed to providers and to NCC front facing social care staff to support recovery plans.
Assess the impact and the long-term sustainability of the social care sector in Newport informing future service requirements.	WG hardship funding to support the social care sector has been extended for 6 months. The terms of this funding is not yet known - the detail will influence our 21/22 fee negotiations.

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Safeguard and support children and young people to remain safely with their families.	Local companies in the City donated laptops and iPads to children in residential homes and foster care to help them with their school work. Welsh Government Integrated Care Fund has awarded capital funding for Project Perthyn which is aimed at bringing children back into the City where they can receive better standards of care and be closer to their families. The funding will be used towards the development of a third home in the City which can be used by other Councils in Gwent for children with complex needs.
Improve opportunities for Active Travel and work towards improved air quality.	In collaboration with Network Rail further development has been made with the installation of a new accessible walkway from Devon Place to Queensway. Network Rail have announced that this winter they will close the line that will enable the necessary works to take place. The new footbridge will provide a safer route for pedestrians and improve access for disabled people in the city. The Council also received fantastic news that it will have £9.4m to deliver Active Travel schemes in Newport in 2021/22.
Regulate businesses and support consumers / residents to protect and improve their health.	Regulatory Services will be supporting businesses reopening as restrictions are eased over the next two months.
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.	Permission to Start has been approved for the Transporter Bridge project. Newport Live's Sport Wales additional 'recovery' funding (21/22) will create a new engagement programme aimed at increasing physical activity levels and improving mental wellbeing as part of Covid recovery; building on the #happyandhealthyathome campaign.
Sustain a safe, healthy and productive workforce.	Risk assessment for the Civic Centre has been reviewed and an audit will be undertaken by the end of the month by the Health and Safety Manager.

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Work together with our partners to reduce poverty, address homelessness and support our	HSG spend plan finalised to include a number of supported housing projects, posts and research that will help reduce homelessness. HSG funding to prioritise services developed during the pandemic and to support WG phase 2 capital

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
most vulnerable people as a priority.	<p>projects. Emergency accommodation continues to be reviewed and has been secured for a further 6 months to ensure continuity of service.</p> <p>Faith based humanitarian groups have supported rough sleeping strategies, providing drop in services, food, showers, clothing etc as well as a signposting service and collaborative approach to managing rough sleeping and homelessness in the City.</p> <p>ABUHB have utilised a mosque to host pop up vaccination site for the community.</p>
Assess and address the inequalities that Covid 19 has highlighted or contributed to within our communities.	<p>The Policy, Partnership and Involvement Team has been leading on 'Our Voice, Our Choice, Our Port' Participatory budgeting project. This project is focused on enabling community projects to access health funding to help support their work. Using the NCC Community Impact Assessment on Covid 19, we identified eight vulnerable groups to have been highly affected and five cross cutting themes were identified as affecting multiple groups.</p> <p>The Participatory Budget Steering Group (consisting of public sector, third sector and community members) provided support in the development of videos and bids. Over 80 applications were received. On 27th and 28th March around 400 Newport residents took part in online events Participatory Budgeting events to vote for the community projects that they wanted to receive funding. Funding was awarded to 24 projects which will provide support across a range of the worst affected groups and themes.</p>
Identify, develop and seek to sustain any positive developments emerging during the crisis.	<p>The Council's Chief Executive contributed towards an Audit Wales review and how we worked together in the Council, our partners and with communities.</p>
Developing opportunities for people to access suitable and affordable housing	<p>Following an uplift to our Social Housing Grant funding for the financial year 2021/22, we will be working with RSL partners over the coming weeks to identify additional affordable housing schemes suitable for this funding.</p>
Deliver a community cohesion programme that effectively responds to community tensions and creates a shared sense of identity across the city.	<p>Welcome to Newport App under development in partnership with Cardiff University and Software Academy; design being led by refugees, asylum seekers and migrants and focussed on creating a share narrative of living in Newport</p> <p>Hate Crime training delivered to Hungarian and Polish communities in community languages.</p> <p>Hong Kong Citizens Support steering group established in preparation to welcome newcomers to the city and anticipate demand for services.</p> <p>EU Citizens Rights session delivered with partners to around 80 professionals working across NCC and other organisations, focussed on reducing risk of discrimination experienced by EU citizens in Newport</p>

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	May'21 Update (By Exception)
Prevent and address instances of antisocial behaviour (ASB) impacting upon the residents and the business community of Newport	<p>Referrals continue to be received for young people being involved with ASB, but the number of referrals continue to be low. Police officers are trying to identify young people involved but continues to prove challenging. The direct work with young people will hope to commence as soon as restrictions lift.</p> <p>A number of partners are making contact with young people offering remote support. The ASB group is due to meet and areas to be discussed include - Post Covid support, Data sharing, Planning for new financial year. Partners met to discuss how we could improve the voice of the community. Further work is needed to establish the best fit to managing this. The data sharing group has met and progress is being made.</p>
Re-establish Community Regeneration facilities and services where it is safe to do so for staff and its service users.	<p>Four libraries re-opened for limited browsing on March 29th. Service is aiming to re-open all libraries from April 19th. Limited browsing will operate at six sites – Central; Bettws; Malpas; Rogerstone; Ringland and Tredegar House. Our three smallest sites will operate a click and collect service only. This will be the first time we have offered access across all our sites since the first Covid lockdown commenced.</p> <p>Face to face teaching within Adult Community Learning will re-commence from 12th April in line with WG guidance. Blended learning will continue alongside face-to-face teaching and several classes will remain fully online.</p>
Develop opportunities for community involvement participation and engagement.	<p>The Policy, Partnership and Involvement Team has been leading on 'Our Voice, Our Choice, Our Port' Participatory budgeting project. This project is focused on enabling community projects to access health funding to help support their work. Using the NCC Community Impact Assessment on Covid 19, we identified eight vulnerable groups to have been highly affected and five cross cutting themes were identified as affecting multiple groups.</p> <p>The Participatory Budget Steering Group (consisting of public sector, third sector and community members) provided support in the development of videos and bids. Over 80 applications were received. On 27th and 28th March around 400 Newport residents took part in online events Participatory Budgeting events to vote for the community projects that they wanted to receive funding. Funding was awarded to 24 projects which will provide support across a range of the worst affected groups and themes.</p>

Appendix 2 – Covid 19 Prevention and Response Structure

