

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS: UPDATE

Context

1. In autumn 2021, the Cardiff Public Services Board (Cardiff PSB) commissioned Cardiff Council's Policy and Partnership Team to undertake an initial review of partnership priorities for recovery and renewal.
2. The Cardiff PSB then commissioned further work to:
 - Draw on the findings of the initial review and the findings of the new Local Well-being Assessment and Cardiff & Vale Regional Partnership Board (RPB)'s Population Needs Assessment to identify a focussed list of the issues which fundamentally require partnership working across PSB and RPB members in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.
 - Review partnership governance and delivery arrangements on the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan regional footprint, and make recommendations for change, ensuring partnership arrangements are focussed on the right priorities, there is line of sight to the Cardiff PSB or RPB and wherever possible current arrangements are simplified.

Initial review of partnership priorities

3. In autumn 2021, the Cardiff PSB commissioned Cardiff Council's Policy and Partnership Team to undertake an initial review of partnership priorities for recovery and renewal. The review involved interviews with all PSB members and drew on the early findings of the Cardiff Well-being Assessment, as well as the Cardiff and Vale Population Needs Assessment. In relation to strategic partnership arrangements, it concluded that:
 - Partnership working has worked very well over the course of the pandemic and the momentum of partnership working evident during the pandemic must be maintained through recovery and renewal.
 - There is a commitment from public services leadership to partnership working, a culture of joint working and good relationships, trust but also challenge.
 - Effective partnership arrangements are needed now more than ever to bring partners together to solve complex public services problems.
 - The value of strategic partnership arrangements (often missed) was in creating a governance for discussion and agreement on shared priorities and projects – not necessary on delivery, which mainly rests with partners organisations.
 - The statutory partnership landscape is complex and that can lead to duplication of governance and activity and a lack of clarity over responsibilities and accountabilities for delivering partnership priorities.

4. The review recommended that:
 - i. Post-pandemic priorities for partnership working be reviewed to make sure that partners are agreed on the issues that require collective focus post-pandemic.
 - ii. Partnership governance be reviewed to ensure that 'ownership' of priority areas is clear, and that reporting arrangements/line of sight to the Cardiff PSB/ RPB are clear.
 - iii. The relationship and reporting arrangements between the Cardiff PSB and RPB is defined.
 - iv. Any duplication of activity or governance is removed
 - v. Governance arrangements in place - or in development - that are deemed to be effective are built upon wherever possible.

Review of strategic partnership priorities

5. Using the findings of the Cardiff Local Well-being Assessment, as well as the Cardiff & Vale Population Needs Assessment, an assessment was undertaken by Cardiff PSB and RPB secretariats to draw together the wide range of priorities for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.
6. Following this assessment, a further exercise was undertaken in collaboration with the Regional Partnership Board and Vale of Glamorgan's PSB to develop a focussed list of partnership priorities, using the following criteria:
 - They can only be addressed through strategic partnership working (i.e. **not** core business/statutory responsibility of one statutory member, for example street cleanliness).
 - They require partnership working between members of the PSB and RPB (i.e. **not** wider partnership working with private sector, higher education, or civic society partners).
 - They require partnership working on Cardiff and/or Vale of Glamorgan geographical footprint (i.e. **not** Cardiff Capital Region, Wales, or Western Gateway).
7. In order to both test and discuss the proposed list of partnership priorities, a workshop was held Tuesday 5 July 2022, bringing together policy and data leads from public and third sector organisations across Cardiff and the Vale.
8. Following the workshop, a draft list of priorities for partnership working has been created (**Appendix A**) and grouped thematically.

Review of partnership governance

9. In tandem with the review of priorities for partnership working, a review of the current partnership governance at a Cardiff and Vale regional footprint has been undertaken (**Appendices B and C**).

10. This partnership governance map is supported by a more detailed assessment including the following information:

- The legislation requiring the partnership's establishment (if any)/ its purpose
- Statutory requirements (if any)/ key responsibilities
- The partnership's sub-groups – who reports into the partnership?
- Who does the partnership report to? Are oversight arrangements in place?
- Membership
- Existing priorities

Proposed next steps

11. The PSB is recommended to submit this initial list of priorities to the Office of Future Generation's Commissioner, thereby commencing the 14 week period that their office has to consider the priorities for the Cardiff PSB. As this work is refined over the coming months, further iterations will be shared with the FGC Office.

12. The existing partnership governance (**Appendices B and C**) is reviewed to ensure that 'ownership' of priority areas (**Appendix A**) is clear and identified in relevant Terms of Reference, and that reporting arrangements/line of sight to the Cardiff PSB/ RPB are clear.

13. That this review will produce a revised partnership governance structure for the PSB and RPB to consider at a future meeting.

Well-being Plan statutory timescales

14. The proposed next steps above will be taken forward in the context of the following timescales:

- Following submission of the PSB's initial priorities to the Future Generations Commissioner (FGC), the FGC's Office has up to 14 weeks to provide advice on how to take steps to meet the PSB's local objectives (statutory)
- 12 weeks public consultation (statutory)
- The local well-being plan must be published within one year of the last local government elections, i.e. by 5 May 2023.