Well-being Plan for Torfaen
2018 - 2023
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Foreword

Torfaen Public Services Board was established in April 2016 under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and brings together public services operating across the County Borough to improve resident’s well-being.

Together, as public service partners and in consultation with the Torfaen community; we have undertaken an assessment of well-being which we published in May 2017 on our website, and have used this assessment to draft the first well-being plan for Torfaen. www.torfaenpublicservicesboard.co.uk

This document sets out how we will collectively respond to some of the key issues identified in the well-being assessment. However, we are very aware that more needs to be done. We must make the shift away from a previous voluntary partnership board, to a new statutory partnership that requires us to work collectively, collaboratively and differently to improve the well-being for people in Torfaen, both now, and for future generations. This will require a step change from ‘business as usual’ to a comprehensive partnership approach that improves well-being for our residents and adds value to the work being delivered.

This plan sets out our key themes and objectives to improve well-being in Torfaen, for both the places we live in and the people who live here.

We hope that this approach will make significant improvements and we can all work together as partners to make Torfaen a great place to live, work and visit.

I very much welcome this first Well-being Plan for Torfaen. This is our starting point and further work is required in several areas over time which will require the involvement of people and businesses, as well as public services.

Clr Anthony Hunt
Chair of Torfaen Public Services Board
1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background
The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (The Act) establishes public services boards across Wales setting out statutory functions to assess the well-being of the area and form well-being plans on a five-year cycle. This is something that Torfaen Public Services Board (PSB) has willingly embraced – working together to improve well-being for people and places across the borough over the next 25 to 30 years and beyond.

The PSB is the local partnership which brings together the chief officers and leaders of public services operating in Torfaen. More information can be found about the PSB - its membership, plans and meetings – on our website: www.torfaenpublicservicesboard.co.uk

We published our first Assessment of Well-being in May 2017 on our website (as per the above link). This assessment will be updated as new information becomes available and further work is undertaken to better understand and to provide the right solutions.

Using the assessment as a starting point, we have talked to people who currently run and use our services. We could have a very long list of actions, as in previous partnership plans, that we all work on separately and make some improvements here and there.

However, our ambition is to do things differently, recognising the strong connection between the approach taken to working together and the effectiveness of the outcome for the people who live and work in Torfaen.

We understand that we cannot do everything, all at the same time, and must be realistic in addressing the areas where the PSB will have the most positive impact. By prioritising our activities and identifying those areas where, through positive collaborative activities, we can add value and benefit for our residents.

This is the first phase of long term planning and we will repeat the cycle every five years. We know there is still more to do to get a deeper understanding of some of the issues affecting our communities and what the solutions might be. We also need to better connect to our communities so we can work together to improve well-being, therefore, we will update this Plan in 2020 as well as at the end of the five years in 2023.

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board; Torfaen County Borough Council; South Wales Fire & Rescue Service; Natural Resources Wales; Police & Crime Commission for Gwent; Gwent Police; Her Majesty’s Prisons & Probation Service for Wales; Wales Community Rehabilitation Company; Melin Homes; Bron Afon Community Housing; Torfaen Voluntary Alliance; Town & Community Council representation; Torfaen Leisure Trust.
1.2 Making the connections
This Well-being Plan will form an essential reference document for public services who operate in Torfaen as each must use the strong connections to the assessment of well-being and the well-being objectives set out in this Plan to inform their own corporate planning arrangements, well-being objectives and annual well-being statements. Therefore, it is important that the contents of this plan, including the well-being objectives, are supported by evidence in the assessment of well-being and lead to activities that will improve well-being across Torfaen.

Appendix 1 sets out the links between organisational well-being objectives and the PSB’s well-being objectives.

There are 44 public bodies across Wales which must take account of PSB Well-being plans and in Torfaen this includes:

- The Local Health Board’s Medium Term Financial Plans which will have to take account of the five well-being plans that cover the Gwent region as will the partnership Regional Area Plan (required under the Social Services Wellbeing (Wales) Act and further referenced below).
- The Fire & Rescue Service will take account of the ten well-being plans that cover the South Wales area to inform their corporate Improvement Plans.
- Natural Resources Wales has nineteen well-being plans across Wales to take into account for their national corporate plan.

- Torfaen County Borough Council will use the assessment and well-being plan when setting their next corporate plan and priorities. It will also use the plan when reviewing their annual well-being statements.
- Cwmbran and Pontypool Community Councils meet the criteria of the Act and are setting out their plans to support and improve well-being. (The other Town and Community Councils in Torfaen, who are not subject to the Act, do not have to be explicit in their plans but are all working to support well-being within their areas too).
- Policing and probation services, local social housing providers, voluntary associations and leisure trusts are also not directly subject to the Act but are valued partners within the PSB and will use well-being plans, that are relevant to their own areas of operation, when forming their own organisational and corporate plans.

All the above organisations are members of Torfaen PSB but there are other public bodies such as the Arts Council, Sport Council for Wales and Higher Education organisations that, under the Act, need to look at well-being plans to inform their own policies and strategies.

For some of the issues identified in the well-being assessment, there are already established regional and local partnership and collaboration arrangements that are working to improve outcomes for people affected by them. We need to better connect this activity at the frontline, through strategic planning and our culture and
behaviours so that we avoid duplication, identify gaps, capture opportunities for complementary activity and maximise our collective reach to improve well-being.

These and other local partnership groups will continue and their work has not been flagged as new areas of work for this well-being plan. Connections will continue to be made and information taken into account through the continual updating of the well-being assessment, thus raising any concerns and issues that the PSB may need to address in the future. Appendix 2 gives an ‘at a glance’ picture of connected plans and strategies and a short description of each.

The Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 requires the health board and local authorities in its area, to work together and with wider partners to improve people's health and well-being. A Regional Partnership Board is established to oversee this work and the Area Plan for Gwent sets out areas of activity for the following nine themes - Children & Young People; Older People, including People with Dementia; Health & Physical Disabilities; Mental Health; Learning Disabilities; Sensory Loss & Impairment; Carers; Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence; Autism.

There are strong connections between the Area Plan and the objectives set out in this Well-being Plan and we will work with the Regional Partnership Board to make sure we do not duplicate activities but that our work is complementary to improve both personal health & well-being (through the Area Plan) and well-being of place (through this Well-being Plan). A copy of the Area Plan can be seen on the PSB website (from May 2018) www.torfaenpublicservicesboard.co.uk

The Act also requires the PSB to consider other legislation and the following have been taken into account as part of the development for this plan – the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Measure 2011, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Environment Act 2016. We have worked throughout our engagement and consultation activities to ensure a wide range of people have been involved including school councils and youth forums, disability groups, older people, people from the Welsh language community, people from the LGBT+ community, Gypsy Travellers and other under-represented groups.
1.3 National well-being goals and new ways of working

The Act sets out seven well-being goals which public services across Wales must work towards to improve social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being. These can be seen in figure 1.

The Act also sets out how we must work using the Sustainable Development Principle, which states – “We must act in a manner in which we ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

To show we applied the sustainable development principle we must use integrated, preventative and collaborative approaches that take account of the long-term and involve our communities. These are known as the five ways of working and are to be used by each public service organisation to develop and deliver well-being and, by public services boards in ensuring robust and effective partnership working.

Figure 2 sets out how we have worked to the five ways during the development of this plan. Later in the plan we describe in more detail how we have used the five ways of working in relation to each objective to maximise our contribution to each of the national well-being goals.
### Integration
Our approach to well-being planning has considered how each of our objectives can improve social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being in Torfaen and its communities. Under each objective in Section 5 we have set out how it will contribute to achieving the well-being goals. We have also looked at the inter-connections between the well-being objectives and will be working on activities that can add value, benefit and maximise partner resources.

### Long-term
We have set out our shared vision for the future, where Torfaen has responded to the long-term challenges facing its communities and some of the opportunities that we identified in the well-being assessment. Our well-being objectives set out the initial steps we need to take together to create more sustainable and resilient communities. We will need to think creatively to address some of the challenges or to adapt to lessen their impact including looking at technological advances, application of medical research, smarter use of resources and working with our communities who often have the answer. At a Gwent level, we are working with other PSBs to understand how public services need to respond to the issues over the next five, fifteen and twenty five years. This will provide a range of future scenarios and wider issues that could impact on Torfaen and public service delivery over the next 20-25 years, including technological and political trends.

### Prevention
Preventing problems occurring or getting worse has been a key approach to developing this plan. We know that proactive responses are always going to be more effective than short-term reactive approaches and they are likely to be more cost effective in the long-run too. Working together on prevention and early intervention, rather than individually, will help us to break the cycle of some of the bigger intergenerational issues and take people with us on a journey of change for the better.

### Involvement
The people working and living in our communities have helped us to develop our well-being objectives and we have listened to what they have told us to inform our approach.

### Collaboration
In preparing this plan, partners have worked together, sharing expertise to begin to build a deeper understanding of the issues, and develop effective approaches to improve well-being. This work has been informed through sharing information, workshops and meetings.

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Figure 2: How the Public Services Board is using the 5 ways of working
2.0 Well-Being Assessment

2.1 Current Torfaen
A central message from our first well-being assessment is one of widening inequality; how this is associated with, and impacts upon, just about every aspect of well-being. We used a place-based approach to collecting information and the views of people who live and work in Torfaen, building a picture of well-being for Blaenavon, Pontypool and Cwmbran.

Some of the information confirmed what we already knew; that is, where our most deprived communities are, and how people in these areas often experience multiple, clustered difficulties which all affect their well-being. However, even in our less deprived areas there are families and individuals who are struggling with poor health, no or limited educational qualifications and unemployment or low income levels which mean their well-being is also of a lower quality than others around them.

We talked to people across the borough and heard how most of them value our green spaces, want safe and clean streets, affordable housing and good health. Our citizens also told us of the importance of affordable and timely transport to access education, employment and social activities. Some of these are the responsibility of single organisations and services, however the Act is about what organisations can do together to tackle the big issues and improve well-being on multiple issues that were identified in the assessment, from the data and from our conversation with our communities. We used these key challenges and opportunities to help us prepare a long-term vision for Torfaen.
### 3.0 Developing the plan

#### 3.1 How the well-being objectives emerged

Figure 3 below sets out the main steps taken to prepare the draft well-being plan. It takes, as a starting point, the key short, medium and long term challenges and opportunities.

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<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Workshops to identify key emerging priorities and vision</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Drivers - identification of key well-being drivers</td>
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<td>Baselining - understanding what is already happening</td>
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<td>Action Planning - workshops identifying objectives and high levels for action and future activity</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sense check - going back to the assessment ad what people told us</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Start 14 week consultation - Future Generations Commissioner</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Involving our citizens - what do we do and what can they do to help address the emerging priorities?</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Feedback from the Future Generations Commissioner</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Statutory consultation on draft well-being plan</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Officer workshops to set out definitive steps - who, what and when</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>PSB member workshop to agree ‘how’ we exemplify the 5 ways of working</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Finalise plan</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Monitoring and measuring</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Annual reporting</td>
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*Figure 3: Our steps for preparing the plan*
To support our approach an Officer Support Group was established bringing together professional expertise, service and community insight. Along with looking at current local and regional activity the group considered what is working well and where we could be doing more. Priority areas were identified where the PSB can start to take collective action and build on our knowledge to improve the health of Torfaen, improve the wealth and prosperity of Torfaen and enhance and protect our natural environment to support well-being. These were then considered by the PSB and further we agreed to focus on a small number of issues where collectively partners can make a difference.

3.2 Involving our citizens
To build on the 1073 responses to the well-being assessment, over the summer of 2017, we had a conversation with our communities about the emerging priority areas in terms of improving well-being in Torfaen and to ask what they thought public services could do collectively to effectively respond to the associated challenges and opportunities; what could communities, individuals, businesses and other organisations do to help; how/would people like to be involved or what could they do to help; how could public services help and support people to be involved. In the summer of 2017, 333 people and 23 businesses provided their views. Further information can be found in Appendix 3. We have used suggestions on how people can be involved in supporting the delivery of each objective later on in the plan (Section 6).

In the autumn of 2017, when we consulted on the draft well-being plan, we had 50 responses from individuals and stakeholder organisations. All the responses from the autumn consultation have been analysed and can be seen in Appendix 4. We will use this information to support work to involve our communities in developing and delivering well-being over time. Figure 4 shows there is high level support for the PSB’s seven well-being objectives.
4.0 Our shared vision for future generations

We want Torfaen to be a great place to live, work and visit. A place where the environment is protected and enhanced, every child has the best start in life and people have opportunities to work, learn and live healthier and prosperous lives.

In the Torfaen of the future we want people to live in cohesive communities, where they feel safe and are empowered to take responsibility for their own well-being and to play an active part in local services and decisions. Where people will participate in cultural activities and the Welsh language will be embedded into our communities.

Future generations of children and young people will have the best start in life and will meet developmental milestones. Our citizens will live long happy, healthy and independent lives and there will be less sections of our community living in poverty.

People will live in good quality and affordable homes and local housing demand will be met. People will have the skills and qualifications to access decent work and the local economy will be prosperous with strong links to the regional economy.

Businesses will be cyber secure and have access to the latest technological advances. They will have secure supplies of raw materials and energy and will have adjusted to the new international trading agreements.

Natural resources will be protected and enhanced and resilient to a changing climate. Water and air quality will be good, soils will be healthy and ecological connectivity will be maximised. Our citizens’ will understand and be able to realise the many benefits that our natural resources can provide.

Our communities and the key infrastructure they rely on will be resilient to the impacts of climate change. Opportunities associated with a changing climate will have been realised e.g. tourism, recreation and agriculture.

Torfaen will have resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, tackling fuel poverty, active travel and more local renewable energy generation.
5.0 How we are going to work together

We recognise the strong connection between the approach we take and the effectiveness of the outcome. The legislation however allows for a range of responses, from minimal compliance, to using the Act to drive transformative change in public services.

Our ambition is to work together to exemplify the five ways of working to maximise our contribution to the national well-being goals, and support the delivery of our well-being objectives.

This will involve us using our collective assets: people (staff and citizens), land, buildings, and procurement to maximise well-being for the people of Torfaen and build resilient communities. We will align our approach embedding the five ways of working to the seven key areas that Welsh Government has identified as where the change needs to happen (figure 5). To help us do this we will use the Future Generations Framework for Service Design. See Appendix 5.

We know that to get the best out of our collective organisations skills and abilities, we will need to change the way we work together, including our cultures and behaviours so staff at all levels of our organisations fully understand the part they must play to improve well-being and have the right support, skills and expertise to do so.

This will also involve us looking at how we do this differently, examples being the co-location of staff and how secondments could support this important work.
A place-based pilot
To enable this to happen and to support us to respond meaningfully to the legislation we have committed to establishing a joint programme of work relating to “how” we will work together. We will initially focus this new approach on a place-based pilot in Blaenavon exploring our joint progress against one of our well-being objectives - supporting healthy lifestyle behaviours and the steps we will take to meet this objective.

Supported by the Welsh Government’s low carbon Smart Living Programme, the pilot or “smart demonstrator” will consider how innovative approaches and technologies can support the long-term well-being of a community and deliver multiple well-being benefits. It will also look at how public services working collaboratively can best use their assets to support this.

Our well-being assessment identified that communities are complex and dynamic places. Each has a different set of social, economic, environmental and cultural experiences, which have an influence on the well-being of the people living and working there. No two communities are exactly the same, which is why taking a “place-based” approach enables us to focus on smaller area issues vital to improving well-being.

The pilot will provide us with a place-based “blue-print” of what works well and what doesn’t work, building on the strengths of Blaenavon and the people that live there. This approach will positively impact more broadly on well-being, see figure 6 for some examples.

The plan is to take the learning from the pilot and use a “roll it in” approach with our other objectives to improve well-being; we have seven well-being objectives and these are set out in Section 6.
This new approach will also respond to our collective learning from working together on the well-being assessment, key recommendations for improvement that the Future Generations Commissioner has made to all PSBs across Wales and advice provided by the Commissioner following the statutory consultation process especially the importance of thinking differently, being aspirational and repurposing resources.

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<td>Taking action to reduce poverty and inequalities can reduce the impact of poor health.</td>
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<td>Taking mitigation action to make buildings warmer, more energy efficient and to reduce fuel costs, especially for the most vulnerable, will support carbon reduction, improve physical and mental well-being and contribute to a more equal Torfaen.</td>
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<td>Supporting people to live healthy lives, where they can achieve their educational potential and become part of a healthy workforce will contribute to wider economic well-being.</td>
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<td>Reducing transport emissions through encouraging more active travel will help mitigate the impacts of climate change, improve air quality and support people to make healthier lifestyle choices.</td>
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Figure 6: Examples of wider well-being benefits associated with the pilot.
### 6.0 Our well-being objectives

Based on the information we have collected in the assessment and from the public, the analysis carried out to date and the expert knowledge of public services officers, our well-being objectives can be seen in figure 7.

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<td>Develop a functional, connected network of natural areas that support the current and future well-being needs of local populations.</td>
<td>Develop mitigation and adaptation responses to the impacts of climate change.</td>
<td>Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life.</td>
<td>Support healthy lifestyles and enable people to age well.</td>
<td>Tackle the inter-generational patterns of poverty and develop economic resilience.</td>
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<td>Improve local skills through work-force planning, training, apprenticeships, and volunteering opportunities.</td>
<td>Create safe, confident communities and promote community cohesion.</td>
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Figure 7: Torfaen Public Services Board well-being objective

We have taken advice from the Future Generations Commissioner in the development of these objectives, in particular the importance of not rushing to solutions when deciding the collective steps we need to take to achieve our well-being objectives. Our rationale is that these are big issues that will take longer to research and really understand what actions will be effective. As a result we have purposely kept the plan high level to give us time to build our understanding of what we can best do to support our objectives including to work through changing cultures and behaviours and, to involve the public and other stakeholders in exploring areas that need more detail. We will do this by focusing our early activity on the place-based pilot and applying the learnings to the approaches we take across the borough when working on all of our seven well-being objectives. See Section 5.
In the following sections of the plan we identify high level areas for action that will support us in meeting our objectives and set out where we aim to make significant achievements in the short, medium or long-term. These actions will enable us to **explore** effective approaches in the short-term; **realise** by scaling up success in the medium term and **transform** how we work together in the longer term.

### Explore
- Share data and information, develop joint approaches, identify where existing approaches need to change, identify best practice, pilot and test innovative solutions.

### Realise
- Scale up and implement success, widen influence, role in activity, realise opportunities and empower communities.

### Transform
- Achieving long-term change, anticipate and enable community action, deliver locally relevant solutions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explore</th>
<th>Realise</th>
<th>Transform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short term</strong> In the first 5 years</td>
<td><strong>Medium term</strong> Over 10 years</td>
<td><strong>Long-term</strong> Over 10 – 15 years and beyond</td>
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</table>

Whilst in the following sections of the plan we have set out broad areas for activity where we think we can make achievements over these timescales, the development of detailed activities will be informed by the learnings from the place-based pilot, in particular how we exemplify the five ways of working.

Figure 8: Timescales for delivering key actions
6.1 **OBJECTIVE 1:** Develop a functional, connected network of natural areas that support the current and future well-being needs of local populations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explore</th>
<th>Realise</th>
<th>Transform</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the short-term where we expect to make achievement in the first 5 years</td>
<td>In the medium-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 years</td>
<td>In the long-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 to 15 years and beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Develop a shared Green Infrastructure strategy which maximises the well-being benefits that sustainably managed quality greenspace can provide. This will include approaches to:</td>
<td>ii. Review internal administrative, strategic, operational and partnership procedures and policies of all PSB partner organisations to reflect the priorities for natural resources as set out in the new green infrastructure management approach.</td>
<td>iv. Work with private and third sector landowners to encourage the adoption of the new green infrastructure management approach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support biodiversity and ecological resilience.</td>
<td>iii. Exemplify the new green infrastructure approach in the uplands. Also see objectives 2 &amp; 3.</td>
<td>v. Explore how we can support community ownership and management of greenspace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tackle irresponsible use of green space including grass fires, fly tipping and off-road bike use. Also see objective 7.</td>
<td>• Identify strategic opportunities to develop active travel networks and promote outdoor physical activity. Also see objectives 3 &amp; 4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Build climate change resilience and better balance land use pressures. Also see objective 2.</td>
<td>• Maximise opportunities for training, volunteering and apprenticeships related to the natural environment. Also see objective 6.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.1.1 Why we chose this objective
The assessment told us that ‘place’ is important to people and that our natural resources are an important asset. In particular the outdoor environment which includes the air, land, water, wildlife and plants that make up the landscape which surrounds us. This natural environment has the capacity to deliver multiple well-being benefits to the citizens of Torfaen. These benefits include clean water, flood protection, space for leisure and recreation, food and fuel production, a sense of tranquillity, jobs and economic activity associated with a range of sectors including forestry, fisheries, tourism, leisure and agriculture.

Torfaen’s unique and beautiful landscape is a significant ecological resource supporting a range of notable species. We know that upland fires and illegal off-road activity are causing damage to upland habitats and that Blaenavon’s peatland (a Special Landscape Area designation) is being degraded. Poor condition, lack of management and fragmentation of woodland are also issues in Torfaen. A significant number of Larch trees have also been removed in the borough as part of managing the fungus-like pathogen Phytophthora ramorum. (Larch die-back). This has had a noticeable effect on the landscape in places – especially Upper Cwmbran. There are also issues with water quality in the Afon Lwyd and its tributaries.

We also know that the ecological footprint for Torfaen is 3.13 global hectares per person. This means that if everyone in the world lived as we do in Torfaen then we would need 3.13 planets to support us.

If current and future generations are going to realise the benefits that the natural environment can provide, then natural areas need to be in good condition or healthy. This means that we need to work together to develop approaches which protect and enhance characteristics that improve the health of our natural environment. We will do this by enhancing diversity, adaptability, extent, condition and connectivity between natural areas whilst minimising the risks from external factors such as pollution, development, climate change, anti-social behaviour, lack of management and successional planting and non-native species.
Developing new approaches to managing the public sector estate and our collective assets will help us to maintain and enhance healthy functioning ecosystems, improve water and air quality, maintain healthy soils, increase ecological connectivity and contribute to flood management.

The way we manage our green infrastructure can help support longer-term social and economic resilience and Torfaen’s capacity to adapt to climate change e.g. managing water in the landscape and reducing the impact of temperature rise, particularly in urban areas and around key infrastructure.

This approach will enable citizens to understand and realise the benefits that good quality greenspace can provide.
6.1.2 Using the five ways of working

Integration - how our objectives interact

1. HEALTHY AND FUNCTIONAL NATURAL AREA
2. Climate ready
3. Best start in life
4. Healthy lifestyles and aging well
5. Tackle poverty and develop economic resilience
6. Improve local skills
7. Safe, confident and cohesive communities

- Developing a functional, connected network of natural areas will help build resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Good quality greenspace with plenty of opportunities for active travel and physical activity supports healthy lifestyles.
- Developing functional, connected natural areas also offers opportunities for improving local skills through training, volunteering and apprenticeships and can offer opportunities to develop economic resilience through supporting employment linked to the environment.
- Tackling irresponsible use of green space can contribute towards safe, confident & cohesive communities.

Also see:
Section 6.1.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and Appendix 6 which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
### Long-term - key long term challenges and opportunities considered for this objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democratic change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balancing land use pressures</td>
<td>Raw material security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exiting the European Union</td>
<td>Energy security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we work together to develop and adopt sustainable management approaches for our green infrastructure we will need to consider:

- Working better together to balance the land use pressures that impact on our natural resources.
- Increasing the resilience of our natural resources (that we rely on) from a changing climate.
- Better managing water in the landscape and reducing the impact of temperature rise, particularly in urban areas and around key infrastructure etc.
- Identifying and pursuing renewable energy generation opportunities.
- Accounting for the impacts of exiting the European Union on the environment e.g. agricultural payments, access to labour, changes to environmental legislation, loss of grant aid etc.
- Addressing increasing levels of obesity and inactivity by promoting active travel and the benefits of outdoor recreation.
- Supporting an ageing population by making sure there is suitable access to greenspace.
- Identifying opportunities for local food production.
Prevention

Ensuring our natural assets are well managed and in good condition by enhancing diversity, adaptability, extent, condition and connectivity between natural sites whilst minimising the risks from external factors such as pollution, development, climate change, anti-social behavior means will mean that future generations will be able to benefit from their well-being benefits.

Involvement

Supporting community ownership and management of greenspace and encouraging private landowners and land managers (including local residents) to adopt sustainable management approaches supports functional well-connected and resilient natural resources.

I am happy to attend volunteer groups to clean the canal etc.

How could you get involved? - consultation comment
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 1

- This will involve all the public sector with owned or managed land assets in Torfaen working together to maximize its well-being benefits.
- This will also involve working with wildlife organisations, Torfaen Nature Partnership, private land owners, commoners and local residents.
- Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) can provide leadership for community engagement and strategic planning.
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) can identify opportunities where ecological resilience can be improved and identify key risks to natural resources.
- NRW can co-produce with partners an urban green infrastructure GIS (geographic information system) layer.
- NRW will work with partners to identify opportunities to improve the resilience of our natural areas in the county and the well-being benefits they provide.
- Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health Team can provide the evidence base for improving physical activity and the use of green space to improve health.
- Melin Homes will work with statutory bodies and partners to ensure design and planning policy supports resilient, vibrant and healthy communities that benefit people and the environment.
- South Wales Fire & Rescue (SWF&R) can help ensure our green spaces support flood and fire resilience.
- SWF&R can help identify fly tippers with partner organisations such as Fly tipping Wales to ensure waste clean-up.
- Gwent Police can advise on the safety of our public green areas, and help tackle landscape crime.
- Torfaen Voluntary Alliance can help support volunteering to improve and maintain green space for wider benefit (healthy lifestyles, skills development etc.).
- Gwent Police and TCBC will tackle illegal / anti-social activities. These include: metal theft, off-road trespassing, vandalism, fly-tipping, dog fouling, joy riding, fires, poaching and wildlife crime.
- TCBC Community Safety Team and Gwent Police will take appropriate action when members of the public report Off Road Biking.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.1.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

### Well-being goals at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A prosperous Wales</th>
<th>A more equal Wales</th>
<th>A Wales of cohesive communities</th>
<th>A healthier Wales</th>
<th>A resilient Wales</th>
<th>A globally responsible Wales</th>
<th>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Figure 10: Contribution of objective 1 to the national well-being goals

Natural resources provide our most basic needs, including food, energy and shelter. Better management of our natural resources means that we will be better able to address challenges such as climate change, tackling poverty and inequality, and improving people's physical and mental health. Sustainable management of natural resources will also support biodiversity and ecological resilience.

Good quality greenspace is a cost effective way of gaining positive health outcomes. As well as providing a place for us to be active, our green areas produce oxygen and cycling nutrients, help regulate climate, store carbon and have a role in water management (reducing flood-risk). They can absorb air-borne pollutants that are harmful to health and provide a pollination resource which is important for food production.

Working together to ensure all parts of our communities are able to benefit from access to greenspace and be involved in its management will contribute to a more cohesive and equal Torfaen.

Much economic activity is linked to the environment from forestry, fisheries, tourism and recreation to agriculture and green energy production. Maintaining and improving the quality of these resources can deliver benefits and opportunities for the local economy.

Working with regional partners to create safe, confident places will help to promote community cohesion. Addressing the barriers to people being more active, including those with protected characteristics, will contribute to a healthier, more equal and cohesive society i.e. making sure the experience is good and people feel safe.
Supporting more active travel will contribute to reducing local carbon emissions and improve local air quality.

Activity that recognises the limits of the global environment and supports healthy functioning ecosystems will contribute to well-being in the wider world.

Green spaces can provide opportunities for culture and recreation. Maintaining and improving the quality of our natural areas will provide culturally distinctive and attractive areas for local people to come together to participate in sport and recreational activities and contribute to a more cohesive and equal Torfaen. The better the quality and the more diverse our greenspaces are, the more attractive Torfaen will be to visitors.
6.2 OBJECTIVE 2: Develop mitigation and adaptation responses to the impacts of climate change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explore</th>
<th>In the short-term where we expect to make achievement in the first 5 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i. Build on Torfaen’s public sector climate change framework to:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Establish the PSB’s carbon footprint using Natural Resources Wales ‘Carbon Positive’ methodology.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Undertake a local climate risk assessment as a first step towards adaptation.</td>
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<td>ii. Develop collective understanding of climate risks.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Realise</th>
<th>In the medium-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 years</th>
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<td>iii. Explore good practice approaches for effective adaptation. Also see objective 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>iv. Develop and implement an action plan to reduce emissions and build adaptive approaches. Also see objectives 1, 3, 4 &amp; 5.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Transform</th>
<th>In the long-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 to 15 years and beyond</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>v. Use future climate change projections and modelling information as it becomes available to help build long-term resilience in our communities. Also see objective 7.</td>
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</table>

Figure 11: High level actions for objective 2

6.2.1 Why we chose this objective

Our climate is already changing and will continue to do so. This will affect our communities, the services we deliver, our assets and infrastructure.

Projections suggest that, on average Torfaen is likely to face hotter dryer summers, warmer wetter winters, lower groundwater levels, less snowfall and frost, and a greater frequency of extreme weather events [2].

The Stern Review (2006) contained some powerful analysis of the economic implications of climate change. Its key conclusion is that the financial cost of taking early action to mitigate the risks of climate change would be significantly less than taking a reactive approach [3].
Most of the energy that we use comes from fossil fuels such as natural gas, coal or oil. These are non-renewable resources and once they are gone they are gone. As supplies of fossil fuels reduce then we can expect prices to rise which will impact both businesses - increased production and transport costs; and households (more in fuel poverty). Our transport system is also reliant on fossil fuels which will impact on both the economy and our communities.

Taking action to increase resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, supporting local renewable energy production, encouraging active travel and use of public transport will cut carbon emissions and reduce costs for households, businesses and other organisations.

The steps we will take to deliver this objective will involve working together to understand the direct and indirect risks of climate change to service delivery, key infrastructure that we rely on, to our communities and businesses and are an important part of developing effective local adaptation responses.
### 6.2.2 Using the five ways of working

**Integration - how our objectives interact**

1. Healthy and functional natural area
2. **CLIMATE READY**
3. Best start in life
4. Healthy lifestyles and aging well
5. Tackle poverty and develop economic resilience
6. Improve local skills
7. Safe, confident and cohesive communities

- Responding to climate change underpins all of our well-being objectives.
- Developing healthy, connected network of natural areas can help us locally to be **climate ready** e.g. carbon storage, urban cooling and managing water in the landscape.
- Future generations of children will be supported to get the **best start in life** and to **live healthy lifestyles** if local adaptive and mitigation responses are in place.
- Improved energy efficiency will support **tackling poverty** (including fuel poverty).
- Responding to climate change also offers opportunities to improving local skills e.g. associated with tourism or renewable energy and enables the transition to decarbonisation and supports **economic resilience**.
- Identifying and pursuing new business opportunities associated with a changing climate e.g. renewable energy, tourism, recreation and agriculture could help **tackle poverty** and **develop economic resilience**.
- Changes to the climate have the potential to increase inequalities and disadvantage within our communities, so taking mitigation and adaptation action can help **tackle poverty**.

**Also see:**
Section 6.2.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and **Appendix 6** which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
### Long-term - key long term challenges and opportunities considered for this objective

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<th>Democratic change</th>
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<td>Exiting the European Union</td>
<td>Technological advances</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Energy security</td>
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</table>

Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we work together to develop and adopt sustainable management approaches for our green infrastructure we will need to consider:

- Increasing the resilience of our natural resources (that we rely on) from a changing climate.
- Supporting local capacity to adapt to climate change e.g. managing water in the landscape and reducing the impact of temperature rise, particularly in urban areas and around key infrastructure etc.
- Building resilience into service delivery – i.e. account for direct and indirect climate risk in business planning and service delivery.
- Understanding the risks to the resilience of key infrastructure: transport, energy, IT, waste & built environment.
- Addressing indirect impacts on local businesses and productivity e.g. supply chain disruption and disruption to key infrastructure.
- Minimising health risks to communities especially among the elderly and other vulnerable groups e.g. extremes in temperature.
- Identifying and pursuing new business opportunities associated with a changing climate e.g. renewable energy, tourism, recreation and agriculture.

As we work together to reduce carbon emissions we will need to consider:

- Resilience of energy supply - peak energy, market volatility etc.
- Identifying and pursuing renewable energy generation opportunities.
- Resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, tackling fuel poverty, encouraging active travel and use of public transport etc.
Prevention

To ensure the long-term well-being of our communities, we need to start to prepare adaptation approaches locally that will help us respond to the impacts of climate change. Taking action to mitigate the risks of climate change, and developing adaptation responses that build resilience to the inevitable consequences of a changing climate will have clear benefits as reactive approaches will always be more expensive than proactive approaches.

Involvement

To effectively respond to climate change we will need to work with our residents and local businesses to reduce Torfaen’s carbon footprint and explore approaches for effective adaptation for example, encouraging energy efficiency in people’s homes.

‘Ask local groups (schools, scouts, etc.) to plant a tree. Plenty of saplings growing in the area. Needn’t cost anything. Most people have small pots they would give away to start things off.’

What can communities, individuals, businesses or other organisations do to help? Consultation response
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 2

- All partners will work together to share expertise, knowledge and resources across the public sector will enable us to develop more effective adaptation and mitigation responses to the impacts of climate change.
- All the partners will explore their organisational risks to climate change and contributing to benchmarking the PSBs carbon footprint.
- We anticipate that all partners will be involved in undertaking the local climate risk assessment.
- Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) will co-ordinate delivery of this objective supported by Natural Resources Wales (NRW).
- NRW to provide expertise on carbon positive methodology and expertise on undertaking a local climate risk assessment.
- Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health Team can support with data and evidence base on health and climate change and emergent threats to public health.
- We will look to involve with local residents, landowners and businesses in developing and implementing the action plan to reduce emissions and build adaptive approaches.
- Bron Afon will improve the average energy efficiency rating of their housing stock
- Bron Afon will build and retain homes that are fit for the future.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.2.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

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Figure 12: Contribution of objective 2 to the national well-being goals

Taking energy efficient actions to keep our buildings at a comfortable temperature all year round will reduce fuel costs, especially for the most vulnerable; support carbon reduction; improve physical and mental well-being and contribute to a more equal Torfaen.

Taking local action now to adapt to the wider impacts of climate change on our communities, and our organisations, will help create resilient, viable, safe and cohesive communities and support the physical and mental well-being of future generations.

Trees and other vegetation can help mitigate extremes of climate change, providing cooling & shade in urban areas where people work and live.

Adaptation approaches need to ensure that the impacts of climate change do not further increase inequalities within our communities or have greater impact on vulnerable groups.

Reducing transport emissions through encouraging more active travel will help mitigate the impacts of climate change, improve air quality and support people to make healthier lifestyle choices. Improvements to public transport and walking and cycling routes can help support people to find employment or access training.

Increased local renewable energy generation will reduce carbon emissions and could also provide opportunities for employment and for new skills to be developed. Reducing our carbon footprint will impact on the global environment.
6.3 **OBJECTIVE 3: Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life**

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

i. Co-ordinate the systems of early years universal interventions and resource, proportionate to need, to:
   a. Make the most of current antenatal support, ensure access to evidenced-based parenting and family support programmes. Also see objectives 4, 5 & 6.
   b. To encourage families to take up their Healthy Child Wales entitlement.

ii. Plan and coordinate partnership action to prevent and reduce impact of ACEs. Also see objectives 5 & 6.

iii. Prevent and reduce childhood overweight and obesity by implementing the partnership actions in the Gwent childhood obesity strategy. Also see objectives 1 & 4.

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**6.3.1 Why we chose this objective**

The assessment of well-being shows that in some areas there are children born into families where they are at risk of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) which are known to have direct and immediate effects on a child’s health and can affect them into adulthood. ACEs include growing up in households where they are exposed to drug and alcohol abuse (including smoking), domestic violence, verbal, physical and sexual abuse, or households where someone has been incarcerated, has a mental health condition and / or has experienced parental separation.

There is an abundance of research showing that investing in the first years of a child’s life improves outcomes for them throughout the rest of their lives. What a child experiences in the early years of life can contribute to them reaching their educational potential, becoming part of a healthy workforce, being healthy in later life and the influence they will have on their own family.

Gwent Childhood Obesity Strategy identifies evidence based actions to tackle obesity. Effective implementation of these actions will require using the collective resources of public services in Torfaen, and working in a more joined up way. Only then can we can expect to have a positive impact on obesity.
6.3.2 Using the five ways of working

Integration - how our objectives interact

1. Healthy and functional natural area
2. Climate ready
3. BEST START IN LIFE
   4. Healthy lifestyles and aging well
   5. Tackle poverty and develop economic resilience
   6. Improve local skills
   7. Safe, confident and cohesive communities

- Giving every child the best start will enable children to grow into healthy adults, with healthy lifestyles and who age well.
- Providing children with the best start in life will support current and future generations to become part of a skilled (improving skills), healthy workforce which will contribute to tackling poverty and building economic resilience.
- Making sure that children, regardless of their circumstances have good access to healthy and functional natural areas that support outdoor play and active lifestyles will help provide the best start in life.
- Future generations of children will be supported to get the best start in life and to live healthy lifestyles if Torfaen is climate ready.

Also see:
Section 6.3.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and Appendix 6 which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Long-term - key long term challenges and opportunities considered for this objective</th>
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<td>Climate change</td>
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**Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we take partnership action to prevent and reduce impact of ACEs. and to tackle childhood obesity we will need to consider:**

- Addressing increasing levels of inactivity e.g. by promoting active travel and the benefits of outdoor recreational and providing suitable access to greenspace.
- Preventing increasing demand for services, especially in later life.
- Tackling inter-generational patterns of deprivation.
- Reducing health harming behaviours.
- Better forecasting of future education and skills requirements to ensure that young people grow up with the right skills to gain employment and meet future business needs.
- Building resilience to rising food costs.
- Resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, tackling fuel poverty, encouraging active travel and use of public transport etc.
- Accounting for the impacts of exiting the European Union on the products and services we use in our day-to-day lives locally e.g. food, energy, social care etc.
- Supporting digital inclusion and access to latest technology.
- Gaining a better understand the direct impacts on our communities from climate change e.g. flood damage and thermal comfort etc.
Prevention

Experiences in early years can impact on educational attainment, becoming part of a healthy workforce, being healthy in later life and influence the next generation of family. Taking action now to support families and tackle ACEs and their often intergenerational patterns will have long term well-being benefits. Introducing measures now to prevent the issues that are causing ACEs and childhood obesity will help support sections of our communities to reach their full potential and help break intergenerational impacts.

Involvement

Only by working with young people and their families will we develop effective approaches that support better outcomes. We will do this through the Children and Young People’s Partnership Board leading and coordinating engagement and involvement with our schools and frontline services; this will include youth forums, youth and play services, ante-natal and post-natal services, parenting support and much more.

I would be happy to volunteer or offer coaching support to young people to help them understand life can be different.

How could you get involved? - consultation comment
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 3

- Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) & Public Health Wales (PHW) will jointly chair and co-ordinate the Children & Young People’s Partnership Board which will lead the work on this objective.

- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) will work on a national scale with the educational sector to champion the learning opportunities which the outdoor setting provides.

- NRW will facilitate family access to the land we manage and influence and enable family service organisations to better understand and use the natural environment in their service delivery.

- NRW develop collaborative opportunities to deliver mental health services outdoors, acting in a preventative way that recognises a root cause of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

- NRW will work collaboratively to ensure that children have opportunities to play outdoors every day, recognising the well-evidenced link between outdoor play and healthy weight in children.

- Melin Homes will work with schools to ensure that services for young people are more holistic focusing on well-being and not just academic achievement.

- All of the partners can be involved through their day to day services where they are in contact with children, young people and their families.

- TCBC will work with Youth Support Services (including the Youth Offending Service) to promote positive engagement for young people at risk of offending.

- As well as the PSB, wider public services and additional partners in the public, private and third sectors can support us to make progress on this objective over time and the Children & Young People’s Partnership Board will lead and coordinate developing actions.

- Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health Team will support the Torfaen First 1000 days Steering Group (pathfinder), provide advice and support to prevent and reduce the impact of ACE’s and on the implementation of the Gwent Childhood Obesity Strategy.

- Bron Afon will help people to be happy in their homes.

- South Wales Fire & Rescue (SWF&R) will carry out a variety of fire safety visits (including in the home and in schools) which include advice on smoking cessation, carbon monoxide and crime prevention. They will also train child minders on fire safety awareness and provide fire setters cognitive behaviour therapy sessions for young offenders. There will be a branch of Fire Cadets within Torfaen.

- SWF&R will also be trained to recognise the signs of domestic abuse.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.3.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

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Figure 14: Contribution of objective 3 to the national well-being goals

Childhood experiences can determine long-term development and overall life achievements. Taking early action and supporting people to live healthy lives, where they can achieve their educational potential and become part of a healthy workforce will contribute to a more prosperous Torfaen.

Supporting a child to have the best start in life will reduce the likelihood of abuse, maltreatment, physical injury and psychological problems. It will also help them to avoid health problems at a later date.

Tackling the issues that are causing health inequalities will help support sections of our communities in reaching their full potential and contribute to a more equal Torfaen. Those living in areas of deprivation are at greater risk of experiencing multiple ACEs, so tackling ACEs should lead to greater equality.

Having good access to open space for recreation and physical activity can support healthy lifestyles. Being active is an important part of a healthy lifestyle and making sure that children, regardless of their circumstances, have good access to open space, will support this.

Improving feelings of safety and cohesion will help support people’s mental and physical well-being.
### 6.4 OBJECTIVE 4: Support healthy lifestyles and enable people to age well

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explore</th>
<th>In the short-term where we expect to make achievement in the first 5 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i. Undertake a place-based pilot in Blaenavon supported by Welsh Government’s Smart Living Programme. This will:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Explore the effectiveness of existing approaches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify good practice e.g. Integrated Well-being Networks and locality based well-being hubs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify how innovation and technologies can support healthy lifestyles and aging well.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop a blueprint of how public services can use their collective assets and activity to exemplify the five ways of working.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify lifestyle behavioural change required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop operational and business modelling for seamless delivery.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Provide a pathway for delivery with key milestones.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Future-proof proposals.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Realise</th>
<th>In the medium-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 years</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ii. Scale up successful approaches identified through the pilot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii. Use our influence to shape the Regional Partnership Board’s Area Plan and align activity across the partnerships to embed smarter approaches which work.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Transform</th>
<th>In the long-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 to 15 years and beyond</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>iv. Deliver a stronger service model around prevention and early intervention, embedding the integrated well-being network, and well-being hubs across NCN’s.</td>
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<tr>
<td>v. Create multiple place-based smart and resilient communities which:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Adopt smart approaches to the use of resources and assets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strengthen community action by building skills and confidence among citizens, so they can better manage their own health and care needs. Also see objective 6.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Figure 15: High level actions for objective 4
6.4.1 Why we chose this objective

Chronic diseases are the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in Wales and have a major impact on healthy life expectancy i.e. the years of life lived in good health. The assessment of well-being tells us that in Torfaen less than 1/3 of adults eat their 5 a day, over 1/3 adults are physically inactive and 35% drink above the recommended guidelines. Preventing and managing chronic conditions will help working age adults to reach a healthy older age. We need to work together to improve lifestyle behaviours around the major risk factors including smoking, overweight/obesity, unhealthy diets, physical inactivity and harmful alcohol drinking.

The assessment tells us that the number of older people in Torfaen will continue to rise in the next 20 – 25 years. If we do not take action to keep people as well and independent for as long as possible then public services will not be able to cope with demand.

Improving the health of our communities, across life-courses, will help build a strong foundation for the well-being of future generations and, the actions that get us there, will have a far wider impact on well-being than just reducing disease prevalence, severity and premature death.

Public services in Torfaen employ large numbers of people, many of them living in Torfaen or close by. Creating healthy workplaces and supporting staff to keep themselves and their families healthy, will also provide a healthy and resilient local workforce. This will also equip our employees with the skills and confidence to signpost and inform people they come into contact with in terms of life enhancing skills.

Poor lifestyle choices, poverty, deprivation and demand pressures on health and social care professionals nationally means that although there is already much partnership working, to provide universal services to all while supporting those most in need, we still need to be doing more of the things that work and the PSB can enable this to happen in a co-ordinated way.

We also need to find innovative solutions, and develop new models of working to address the variety of health and social needs people have. By using our influence to shape and support the Regional Partnership Board’s Area Plan (set up in response to the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act) and the local delivery plan / ageing well national programmes we will ensure approaches to health are joined up.
6.4.2 Using the five ways of working

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integration - how our objectives interact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Healthy and functional natural area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Climate ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Best start in life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND AGING WELL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Tackle poverty and develop economic resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Improve local skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Safe, confident and cohesive communities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Healthy lifestyles and aging well will be supported if **natural areas** and their associated well-being benefits (including recreational provision, water management and food production) are accessible, well managed, **healthy and functional**.
- The healthier people are, the greater their resilience to the likely impacts of **climate change** e.g. extremes in temperature.
- Additionally, future generations will be supported to live healthy lifestyles if we respond locally to the impacts of **climate change** e.g. flooding.
- Supporting people to live healthy lives, where they can achieve their educational potential and become part of a healthy workforce will contribute to **tackling poverty and developing economic resilience**.
- Improving local skills can improve knowledge and confidence relating to healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Improving mental and physical well-being can improve people's ability to play an active role in the places they live and can support **safe, confident and cohesive communities**.

**Also see:**
Section 6.4.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and **Appendix 6** which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
Long-term - key long term trends considered for this objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Rising costs of resources</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Balancing land use pressures</td>
<td>Raw material security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exiting the European Union</td>
<td>Technological advances</td>
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<td>Energy security</td>
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</table>

To help build our understanding and inform our approaches to supporting healthy lifestyles we are taking part in a Welsh Government place-based Smart Living pilot. This will explore predictive opportunities for future proofing drawing on the future scenarios work commissioned by the PSB’s in Gwent. This will help us to consider:

- Protection and management of our natural resources to ensure the most basic and fundamental needs of future generations are met.
- Increased demand for some services, with increasing numbers of older people needing care and primary health services.
- Supporting an increasingly aging population to access and negotiate the built and natural environment, so that they can keep healthy and independent.
- Resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, tackling fuel poverty, encouraging active travel and use of public transport etc.
- The impact of continued austerity measures on public sector service delivery.
- Consumption patterns that show we are consuming more than our fair share of the earth’s finite resources.
- Supporting the range of sectors that fall within the foundational economy i.e. food, energy, care, and the environment etc. We know that future generations are always going to have demand for these sectors as they are fundamental for everyday life.
- The impact of exiting the European Union on the everyday services we rely on.
- Technological advances that can support people to adopt healthy lifestyles.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Prevention</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taking action now to support people to live healthy lives and age well will support them to achieve their educational potential and go on to become part of a healthy workforce, and contribute positively to their communities. Supporting people in keeping their independence for as long as possible will also help public services manage demand for services.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Involvement</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working with our citizens to provide the right support and to build their skills and confidence will mean they can better manage their own health and care needs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>I could run with someone who wants to get fitter.</em></td>
<td>How could you get involved? - consultation comment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 4

- Welsh Government (WG), Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC), Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) and Public Health Wales (PHW) will sit on the steering group for the Smart Living pilot.
- TCBC will co-ordinate partnership activities relating to the pilot.
- Melin Homes will work with partners to readdress the supply and mix of housing to ensure suitable, affordable and decent housing is available to all.
- Bron Afon will help those who are vulnerable to live independently in their homes, facilitate delivery of the Supported Living Service and build on their existing work on care closer to home.
- NRW will maximise its contribution to social prescribing by mapping greenspace around primary care settings (starting with the pilot) and talking to primary care practitioners. Regionally NRW will work directly with PHW and ABUHB to optimise the use of greenspace in communities.
- Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health team can support with the development of the Well-being Network and can provide the evidence base on health behaviour improvement.
- All of the partners can be involved in supporting messages and actions to promote healthy behaviours.
- South Wales Fire & Rescue (SWF&R) will carry out a variety of fire safety visits (including in the home and in schools) which include advice on smoking cessation, carbon monoxide and crime prevention. There will be a branch of Fire Cadets within Torfaen, which encourages healthy eating and exercise as part of its programme. Fire & Rescue Officers will also be able to deliver messages in schools visits for partner organisations about healthy choices.
- SWF&R will deliver Dementia Friends training for employees to help recognise and better support people with dementia and their carers.
- NRW will continue to work collaboratively on the Large Scale Change project, with a focus on getting people more active more often in outdoor settings across the Heads of the Valleys area.
- TCBC will consider the needs of people of all ages when designing and delivering services and in the provision of goods and facilities. This will ensure that public bodies consider the needs of children, teenagers and younger and older adults.
- TCBC reduce any care disadvantage experienced by older people and promote greater opportunities for rehabilitation.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.4.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Well-being goals at a glance</th>
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<td>A more equal Wales</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Wales of cohesive</td>
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<tr>
<td>communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>A healthier Wales</td>
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<tr>
<td>A resilient Wales</td>
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</table>

Figure 16: Contribution of objective 4 to the national well-being goals

Improving health can increase life expectancy. Taking action to reduce inequalities will reduce the impact of poor health on particular communities.

Supporting people to live healthy lives, where they can achieve their educational potential and become part of a healthy workforce will contribute to wider economic well-being.

Older people already contribute to the local economy through informal caring roles, employment and volunteering.

Supporting more people to a healthy older age where they can continue to work for as long as they wish to, and are able to carry out caring roles where they can, will impact on wider economic well-being in the longer term.

Improving the built and natural landscapes to support people in keeping their independence for as long as possible and will support healthier communities. Physical activity can be supported by reducing barriers such as equitable access to green space. Parks and other forms of public greenspace positively impact on human

Well-being. Improving access to good quality greenspace is a cost effective way of gaining positive health outcomes.

Having healthy functioning ecosystems is fundamental to our health - they produce oxygen and cycling nutrients, help regulate climate, store carbon and have a role in water management (reducing flood-risk). They can improve air quality (absorb air-borne pollutants that are harmful to health) and reduce noise.

Create environments that make the healthy choice, the easy choice and improving feelings of safety and cohesion will help support people’s mental and physical well-being.

Developing people’s ability to manage their own health and well-being by equipping them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to do so and by strengthening local integrated well-being networks and community action to create more cohesive communities.

Involving people in the arts and cultural activities can be a good way to improve mental well-being and build confidence.
6.5 **OBJECTIVE 5**: Tackle the inter-generational patterns of poverty and develop economic resilience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</table>
| i. Focus integrated family support on households in which poverty is a persistent feature to avoid the risk of future generations repeating the same patterns.  
ii. Extend financial inclusion and improve people's financial skills. Also see objective 6.  
iii. Work together to reduce the impact of, and seek to reduce levels of food and fuel poverty. Also see objectives 1, 2, 3 & 4. | iv. Reduce Poverty in working age by:  
• Supporting people to gain the skills and capabilities to find a job and progress once in work. Also see objective 6  
• Influencing others to ensure that more jobs offer at least a Living Wage, with greater job security and opportunities for progression. | v. Reduce Child Poverty levels, by:  
• Supporting people to be good parents, helping parents share care and stay in work, minimising the adverse impacts of separation on children, and supporting children and parents' mental health;  
• Giving access to high-quality, flexible and affordable childcare to parents on low incomes, allowing them to work and improving children’s pre-school development;  
• Ensuring all children from low-income backgrounds can succeed in school;  
• Ensuring all young people leave school with the support, advice, skills and confidence to move successfully into education, training or the labour market and towards independence; and  
• Raising and protecting family incomes so they can afford essentials, reduce stress and give children the opportunity to participate socially and educationally. Also see objectives 2, 3, 6 & 7. |

Figure 17: High level actions for objective 5
6.5.1 Why we chose this objective

The assessment of well-being tells us that more than half of our communities are amongst the most deprived in Wales, that 1 in 5 households in Torfaen are in material deprivation [4] and that there is a greater reliance on benefits here than other parts of Wales.

The average weekly pay in Torfaen is lower than Wales, and significantly lower than the UK average. There is also a significant difference between male and female pay [5].

Compared to the Wales average, people living in Torfaen have lower levels of qualifications and skills (Office for National Statistics) [3].

Torfaen is an area increasingly affected by the UK Government’s welfare reform programme, due to the number of low paid, low hour contracts and this is seeing more people in work moving into poverty. Torfaen also has a higher proportion of residents who are employed in the public sector and manufacturing.

Evidence suggests that much of the inequality and poor life circumstances experienced in our communities is preventable or its impact can be reduced. This objective involves aims to build on the existing work of the PSB on tackling poverty and the impact of changing systems of support (welfare reform) as well as employment (reducing ‘in work’ poverty). Approaches to preventing poverty that are targeted at two-generations, i.e. both the needs of children and their parents, have been shown to be effective, yet their implementation remains challenging and could be improved by the PSB enabling better inter-agency communication, planning, and data sharing. Additionally by working together to develop family support approaches that connect programs on parenting skills with services that target job training and by focusing our preventive approach on developing capabilities that are common to both (such as self-reliance and self-management skills), we can enable and empower change at the individual level.

As well as the impacts to those directly affected by poverty, there are also wider social and economic well-being impacts. Poverty is linked to significant additional public spending on health, education, social care and police and criminal justice services in Wales [1].

We know that future generations are always going to have demand for the sectors that are fundamental for everyday life e.g. food, energy, care, and the environment. Supporting this and existing economic activity is important because it will help ensure our communities and local economies are more resilient against external shocks.

Over and above the jobs in this very local community and economy, it is also important that we work together in maximising potential local benefits from strategic developments and activity e.g. the new Strategic Critical Care Centre, Cardiff City Regional Deal & the Valleys Taskforce, Tidal Lagoon proposals etc.
6.5.2  Using the five ways of working

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<td><strong>5. TACKLE POVERTY AND DEVELOP ECONOMIC RESILIENCE</strong></td>
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- Tackling poverty can **support healthy lifestyles** and give children the **best start in life** as we know that living in deprived communities can result in less years of life that are free from illness or disability.
- Tackling poverty can reduce tensions and support **community cohesion**.
- Tackling intergenerational patterns of poverty will support people to fulfil their educational potential, **improve local skills** and help support local **economic resilience**.
- Involving the most deprived communities in the decisions that affect them, will help to support **safer and cohesive communities**.

**Also see:**
Section 6.5.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and **Appendix 6** which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
### Long-term - key long term trends considered for this objective

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**Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we work together to tackling the inter-generational patterns of poverty and developing economic resilience we will need to consider:**

- Protection and management and resilience of our natural resources to ensure employment opportunities linked to the environment can be realised.
- Changes to the climate have the potential to increase inequalities within our communities.
- Direct impacts on local businesses and productivity from a changing climate e.g. flood damage to buildings, thermal comfort of workforce etc.
- Indirect impacts on local businesses and productivity from a changing climate e.g. supply chain disruption and disruption to key infrastructure.
- Identifying and pursuing new business opportunities associated with a changing climate e.g. renewable energy, tourism, recreation and agriculture.
- Identifying and pursuing new business opportunities e.g. from technological advances including robotics, 3D printing and healthcare.
- Raw material and water security and resilience to rising costs.
- Resilience to rising energy and transport costs through improved efficiency, tackling fuel poverty, encouraging active travel and use of public transport.
- Accounting for the impacts of exiting the European Union on the products and services we use in our day-to-day lives locally e.g. food, energy, social care etc.
- Maximising the benefits from future strategic developments e.g. SCCC, Circuit of Wales, Tidal Lagoon proposals etc.
- Accounting for future cyber security.
- The impact of continued austerity measures on public sector service delivery.
- Consumption patterns that show we are consuming more than our fair share of the earth’s finite resources.
### Prevention

Using a range of information to identify people at risk of poverty and providing early information and support to avoid or reduce the impacts of poverty will help break cycles of intergenerational poverty. Supporting people to break intergenerational cycles of poverty will help support their long term resilience to change and contribute to well-being.

### Involvement

We will work with our citizens and grass root services to reach people in poverty or at risk of poverty. Using citizen informed information will help us gain a better understanding of the issues and what helps people the most when crisis occurs so that we can develop appropriate services and support.

> I would like to volunteer using the skills I have. I can help with bid writing, supporting people into employment, also public relations and communications.

How could you get involved? - consultation comment.
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 5

• Bron Afon will support their customers to increase and manage their income and continue to work with partners to counter the worst effects of Welfare Reform on our tenants and customers.
• Bron Afon will make their homes as efficient as possible to reduce the cost of living in them.
• Bron Afon will enable their customers to access volunteering, training and jobs.
• Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) will use its resources, including frontline staff to support this objective. Our anti-poverty champions will lead the welfare reform group in finding workable solutions.
• Melin Homes will deploy the services of its Employment and Money Advice Teams to tackle financial exclusion, reduce in work poverty and help and support people to secure sustainable employment by improving skills and capabilities.
• Mynediad is Natural Resources Wales (NRW) scheme to promote and enable access to the Welsh Government Woodland Estate and other NRW landholdings. In 2018 we will promote this further, helping people to find out what opportunities are available to them and their communities – from social enterprises to planning successful activities and events to support local economic resilience.
• TCBC & Public Health Wales (PHW) will jointly chair and co-ordinate the Children & Young People’s Partnership Board which will develop actions to contribute to this objective.
• Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health Team can provide the evidence base for poverty and health and data on deprivation.
• South Wales Fire & Rescue Service (SWF&R) will improve the wellbeing of employees throughout the organisation by providing well paid jobs with good benefits, including salaried pay for on-call staff; Fire cadets who pass out receive a BTEC qualification.
• SWF&R Employability programme will support unemployed people back into work; Referral programmes for offenders provide accredited courses that can be used to find employment.
• TCBC and partners will work to reduce the employment disadvantage experienced by young people and the proportion of young people not in work, education, employment or training.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.5.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

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<td>A healthier Wales</td>
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<td>A resilient Wales</td>
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Figure 18: Contribution of objective 5 to the national well-being goals

Taking action to address local poverty and inequality will help create a more equal Wales.

People who live in deprived communities tend to have lower life expectancy and live less years of life that are free from illness or disability. Additionally children from low-income households achieve worse results at school, increasing the risk that poverty will be passed from one generation to the next [1].

Much economic activity is linked to the environment from forestry, fisheries, tourism and recreation to agriculture and green energy production. Maintaining and improving the quality of these resources can help support local economic resilience.

Improving life opportunities for all people, allowing them to fulfil their potential will help support economic well-being and create a more equal Torfaen. Involving the most deprived communities in the decisions that affect them, and in local service delivery, will help to promote cohesion. Having work can have a positive impact on an individuals health.

There is a strong relationship between health-harming behaviour and deprivation and the life circumstances that go with it, meaning that rates are higher in areas of higher multiple deprivation. Taking action to address poverty will help create a society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised.

Parks and other forms of public greenspace/green infrastructure positively impact on well-being. Physical and mental health can be supported by providing equitable access to green space.
6.6 **OBJECTIVE 6: Improve local skills through work-force planning, training, apprenticeships, and volunteering opportunities**

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</tbody>
</table>
| i. Organise ourselves to maximise the well-being benefits from regional and local economic development opportunities. | v. Fully engage with, shape and exploit opportunities for citizens arising from the Cardiff City Regional Deal and Valleys Taskforce. These include:  
  - Life sciences park and The Grange University Hospital  
  - Strategic employment sites  
  - Transport infrastructure improvements  
  - Town centre employment sites  
  - Residential-led mixed use developments. | viii. Build our understanding the future skill requirements of businesses and respond accordingly.  
 ix. Torfaen’s residents have improved levels of skills and qualifications to take advantage of local and regional employment opportunities. |
| ii. Identify opportunities to develop and support the local foundational economy by:  
  - Utilizing existing research data (such as but not exclusively LSkIP Regional Skills Plan).  
  - Undertaking research into the future labour market need with a focus on supporting the foundational economy where this data doesn't already exist. | vi. Support citizens to engage in work based learning through all-age apprenticeships.  
 vii. Enable citizens and businesses to develop the necessary skills, networks and connections they need to support wider well-being in Torfaen. | ix. |
| iii. Work with our citizens to improve skills and training by supporting opportunities to earn and learn, apprenticeships and volunteering. | | |
| iv. Work with Welsh Government to identify post Brexit resources to support this agenda | | |
6.6.1 Why we chose this objective
The assessment of well-being tells us Torfaen has higher levels than the Wales average of people with lower levels of qualifications and skills. Torfaen has high numbers of low hour, low pay jobs and many people have low aspirations.

Working together to improve people’s skills, address the skill requirements of local business will not only improve people’s life chances and employment opportunities, but will also make Torfaen a more attractive place to do business.

Targeted work with families and individuals, will help promote the aspiration to work, where this may not be seen as a realistic goal.

Interventions to promote progression within employment to higher paid jobs will help address the growing incidence of in-work poverty.

We know that future generations are always going to have need for the range of sectors that fall within the foundational economy as they are fundamental to everyday life i.e. food, energy, care, and the environment etc.

In the future technological advances will likely change what people will be doing for employment, and this will present important opportunities to support and strengthen our local economies across Torfaen. We need to build our collective understanding to make the most of these opportunities.

It is also important that we work together to maximising the benefits for Torfaen from strategic developments and activity e.g. Cardiff City Regional Deal, the Valleys Taskforce and the Tidal Lagoon proposals. In particular the new hospital and life sciences park being built at Llanfrechfa (the Grange University Hospital) offers significant opportunities to increase skills and create employment for local people.
6.6.2 Using the five ways of working

**Integration - how our objectives interact**

1. Healthy and functional natural area
2. Climate ready
3. Best start in life
4. Healthy lifestyles and aging well
5. Tackle poverty and develop economic resilience

**6. IMPROVE LOCAL SKILLS**
7. Safe, confident and cohesive communities

- Improving skills, especially for the most deprived sections of our community will help **tackle poverty and develop economic resilience**.
- Improving educational outcomes and the range of skills within communities, especially for young people from low income families will help **tackle poverty and develop economic resilience**.
- Learning new skills, volunteering and accessing employment can support healthy lifestyles by having a positive impact on physical and mental well-being.
- Improving skills can provide local opportunities for work and volunteering related to the natural environment and de-carbonisation, that can support the resilience of the natural environment (**healthy and functional natural areas**) and tackling **climate change**.
- Improving skills can alleviate issues of **poverty** which in turn can reduce tensions and support **community cohesion**.
- Connect programs on parenting skills with services that target job training and by focusing our preventive approach on developing capabilities that are common to both (such as self-reliance and self-management skills), support children to get the **best start in life**.

**Also see:**
Section 6.6.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and Appendix 6 which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
Long-term - key long term trends considered for this objective

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Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we work together to improve local skills through work-force planning, training, apprenticeships, and volunteering opportunities we will need to consider:

- Future demographic and social changes e.g. the numbers of older people in the workforce increasing.
- The impact of exiting the European Union e.g. on access to labour and sources of funding to support apprenticeships and other training.
- Training and skill requirements associated with strategic developments e.g. the new University Hospital, Circuit of Wales, Tidal Lagoon proposals etc.
- The skills required to support the local foundational economy.
- Accounting for current and future cyber security.
- Skill requirements associated with new business opportunities linked to a changing climate e.g. renewable energy, tourism, recreation and agriculture.
- Forecasting future education and skills needs and engaging with providers to ensure these are communicated and met.
- Supporting technological advances and the new skills required including related to robotics, 3D printing and healthcare.
**Prevention**

Taking early action to break cycles of low aspirations and unemployment will help improve personal situations and the local / regional economy.

Graduates are the next generation of employees. Provision of local graduate employment opportunities will raise the aspirations of local people, improve earning potential and keep money within the local economy. This in turn will increase demand for local goods and services which will create opportunities for more local business and opportunities to provide more employment.

Using a range of information to identify people at risk of poverty and providing early information and support to avoid or reduce the impacts of poverty will help break cycles of intergenerational poverty. Supporting people to break intergenerational cycles of poverty will help support their long term resilience to change and contribute to well-being.

**Involvement**

We will involve our citizens and work with businesses to ensure we understand what matters to them and that their current and future skill requirements are supported.

> I would like to volunteer more in my community. It would be good if there was some kind of event or workshop or even an on-line tool to help me identify my skills and how I could use them to volunteer (what sort of volunteer roles there are). Also more 'taster' days so I can try out different forms of volunteering. I'd like to know more about what is happening in my community.

*How could you get involved?*. Consultation comment
Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 6

- Local partnerships between the Council, Department Works & Pensions (DWP), Careers Wales, Further Education and Higher Education institutions and businesses will help focus a coordinated approach to matching the employment opportunities with the skills and qualifications needed and ensure that local people are supported to achieve the skills and qualification required to enter and progress in the labour market.
- Melin Homes will maximise the opportunities for sustainable employment and improve local skills through in work placements, training and volunteering. In addition through Y Prentis our shared apprenticeship scheme we will increase the number of apprenticeships being offered locally.
- Melin Homes will also work in partnership to maximise the opportunities that arise as part of the City Deal and Valleys Task Force.
- Bron Afon will enable their customers to access volunteering, training and jobs.
- Links will be made to the Valleys Task Force through Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) who are coordinating Valley's task force activity related to higher and further education in Torfaen.
- Links will be made to the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal through TCBC (who will play a part in local delivery) to the soon to be established Cardiff Capital Region Skills and Employment Board.
- TCBC & Public Health Wales (PHW) will jointly chair and co-ordinate the Children & Young People's Partnership Board which will develop actions to contribute to this objective.
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) will launch its national Cyfle placement scheme in 2018 to promote opportunities for apprenticeships, work placements and volunteering.
- South Wales Fire & Rescue Service (SWF&R) Employability programme will support unemployed people back into work; Referral programmes (for offenders or people at risk of offending) will provide accredited courses that can be used to find employment.
- SWF&R will share information with other organisations to support opportunities for learning, training, employment and volunteering.
- SWF&R will work with partners to reduce incidence of road traffic collisions.
- SWF&R Volunteer scheme will train champions to carry out home safety checks.
- TCBC and partners will reduce the employment disadvantage experienced by young people and the proportion of young people not in work, education, employment or training.
- TCBC will work to reduce the economic disadvantage and poverty faced by many disabled people as a result of reduced access to the opportunity for work and insufficient welfare support.
- TCBC will establish equality for all learners, whether this is in schools, the community or within the workplace.

Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.
6.6.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

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Volunteering and learning new skills can be a route to work. Addressing the skill requirements of local businesses will support a thriving economy.

Having a wide range of skills and employment opportunities within communities helps make them more resilient and cohesive. Volunteering can better connect people and communities.

Volunteering opportunities, especially those related to improving the resilience of the natural environment can also contribute to a globally responsible Torfaen.

Improving skills can improve the life chances for people with protected characteristics and for young people from low income households.

Accessing employment has a positive impact on health. Volunteering can improve feelings of self-esteem and support physical and mental well-being. Adopting healthy lifestyles and improving life opportunities for all people supports them to fulfil their potential and become a productive part of the economy.

Supporting the foundational economy will help ensure people have access to the everyday services they rely on such as care provision which will support a healthier Torfaen.

Many skilled jobs are linked to natural resources and there are many opportunities to improve local skills through the environment especially in relation to land management, forestry, fisheries, tourism and recreation and, green energy production.

The arts and cultural activities can provide opportunities for people to learn new skills and expertise. Supporting people to learn and use the Welsh language will open up employment opportunities.
6.7 **OBJECTIVE 7: Create safe, confident communities and promote community cohesion**

**Explore**
In the short-term where we expect to make achievement in the first 5 years

- i. Community Mapping - Develop an understanding of the demographic and diverse composition of our local communities by mapping religious, ethnic, socio-economic and protected characteristics.
- ii. Identify and progress innovative and tested partnership initiatives that focus on early interventions to address crime and anti-social behaviour.
- iii. Working with partners in the development and implementation of initiatives to support and protect our most vulnerable groups.

**Realise**
In the medium-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 years

- i. As a partnership, involve the community to allow people to feel empowered and informed in order to deal with localised community safety.

**Transform**
In the long-term where we expect to make achievements over 10 to 15 years and beyond

- v. Deliver a responsive and effective partnership service to meet the relevant needs and requirements of individual communities in order to reduce the fear of crime and disorder.

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Figure 21: High level actions for objective 7
6.7.1 Why we chose this objective

The assessment tells us that our citizens want to feel safe in their communities, want people to get along, have good community spirit and be more involved in local activities.

Feeling safe supports positive mental and physical well-being and helps people to get along together. Unless people feel safe in their homes and their communities they will not have the confidence or desire to participate in community life. By working together we can enable all parts of the community to get involved in shaping their communities.

Community cohesion can only be achieved through practical support across a broad range of policy and service delivery. In acknowledgement of this, we will develop a range of initiatives targeted towards learning, communication and inclusion that advances equality of opportunity as well as promoting good relations between communities.
6.7.2 Using the five ways of working

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<td>6. Improve local skills</td>
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7. SAFE, CONFIDENT AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES

- By tackling wider crime and community safety concerns via tackling perpetrator behaviour we will be supporting the **tackle poverty & develop economic resilience objective** (for example, areas with lower crime levels have a stronger foundational economy).
- Addressing intergenerational offending will empower children to resist offending and secure healthier more economically active futures. Additionally, Safer Communities will encourage inward economic investments
- By tackling loneliness and social isolation (for example, addressing older adult loneliness and supporting individuals who are vulnerable to recruitment, or have already been recruited by violent extremists) we will be supporting the **healthy lifestyles and aging well objective**.
- By tacking environmental crimes (for example, addressing illegal off roading and wildfires in the uplands, we will help conserve the landscape and natural resources) we will be supporting the **functional connected network of natural areas objective**.
- By tackling intolerances and promoting good relations via learning and communications initiatives (for example, working in collaboration with schools to address prejudices and intolerances) we will be supporting the **best start in life and improving local skills objectives**.
- By promoting equality and cohesion we will be supporting the **tackle poverty and develop economic resilience objective** (for example, there are clear links between low cohesion and the experience of poverty and deprivation, with lower levels of integration being aligned with greater poverty, tackling one can influence the other).
- Creating safe, confident and cohesive communities will support people to **adopt healthy lifestyles and to age well**.

Also see:
Section 6.7.3 - Contribution to the well-being goals and **Appendix 6** which provides a summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.
### Long-term - key long term trends considered for this objective

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The nature of crime is changing rapidly and will continue to do so over time and public services need to be flexible enough to adapt to those changes. Working with the other PSB’s in Gwent we have commissioned work to develop future scenarios to help build our understanding and inform our approaches. As we work together to create safe, confident communities and promote community cohesion we will need to consider:

- Future demographic and social changes i.e. the number of older people in Torfaen will continue to rise in the next 20 - 25 years and communities will need to meet their needs. Failure to tackle social isolation can impact individual/community mental health and physical well-being.
- The impact of exiting the European Union on people getting on well together.
- Accounting for current and future cyber security.
- Resilience of our communities to a changing climate.
- Changing patterns of international migration that may result from a changing climate could result in new challenges for our communities and service delivery.
- The impact of land use pressures on community cohesion.
- Food, water, energy security and resilience to rising costs.
- Resilience of natural resources so all parts of our communities are able to benefit from access to greenspace, particular where people may perceive they are competing for scarce resources.
## Prevention

Taking action now to break behavioural cycles and start to work with communities will lead to better understanding and tolerance between people and will improve the safety and cohesion of our communities over time. This will be achieved by:

- Identifying and progressing innovative and tested partnership initiatives that focus on early interventions to address crime and anti-social behaviour and causes of offending behaviour.
- Taking action to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour by working in partnership across public services and with the community.
- Reducing re-offending in Gwent and using the most appropriate outcome to deal with people who offend.

## Involvement

Working with our citizens to seek and implement solutions will help to build community cohesion and community pride.

- **Individuals should be encouraged to get to know their neighbours which in turn will support better cohesion and additional support to those who are socially isolated.**

What can communities, individuals, businesses or other organisations do to help? - consultation comment
### Collaboration - who will be involved in delivering objective 6

- **Gwent Police and Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC)** will lead partners in developing responses and actions to deliver on this objective.
- TCBC and Gwent Police will work with Connect Gwent (Victim Support) to increase the reporting of hate crimes and hate incidents and to offer support to victims of these offences.
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) will provide information on where anti-social behaviour and crime is having an impact on natural resources.
- Bron Afon will tackle anti-social behaviour robustly, quickly and fairly, help create a sense of pride in where we live and work and work with others to improve our neighbourhoods.
- TCBC & Public Health Wales (PHW) will jointly chair and co-ordinate the Children & Young People's Partnership Board which will develop actions to contribute to this objective.
- South Wales Fire & Rescue Service (SWF&R) will carry out home safety visits which include advice on smoking cessation, carbon monoxide and crime prevention, targeted at the most vulnerable.
- SWF&R will work in partnership with Gwent Police to identify fire setters & anti-social behaviour – linked to referral programmes such as the Phoenix Programme.
- SWF&R will work with partner organisations to reduce incidence of road traffic collision; and will support water safety works including preventing (and tackling) flooding.
- SWF&R will operate seasonal initiatives such as BANG – to improve safety on bonfire night.

*Some partners are yet to confirm their involvement and other organisations can be involved as we develop our actions.*
6.7.3 Contribution to the well-being goals

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Having a safe and confident population will support people taking a pride in their area and so make it attractive to investors and visitors. Reducing the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour on local businesses will support the local economy.

Enabling all parts of the community to get involved in place-making and local decisions will help support greater equality.

Taking action to improve relations between individuals and communities and to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation will help to support a more equal Torfaen. Supporting diverse groups of people (including those of different cultures and ethnicity) to get on well together is important for well-being and will help promote global responsibility.

Encouraging people to participate in the arts, sport and recreation will promote community cohesion and can reduce anti-social behaviour.

Introducing measures to tackle crime, anti-social activity and to improve safety will support greater cohesion in our communities. Improving feelings of safety will help support peoples mental and physical well-being e.g. people will feel able to enjoy the outdoors to walk, run, cycle and take part in other activities that keep them healthy.

Enabling people to enjoy their community and wider open spaces of Torfaen without fear for their own safety or that of their family will contribute to a safer, more cohesive Torfaen. Improving road safety will have a direct impact on physical well-being. Safer roads will allow more people to realise the health benefits of active travel.
There are strong links between safety, healthy lifestyles and building the economy.

Increasing opportunities for people to use the Welsh language in the places they live and work will help create more cohesive communities.

Taking action to prevent illegal off-roading and wildfires in the uplands can help conserve the landscape and natural resources for present and future generations.
7.0 Evaluating and monitoring

This Plan looks at improving well-being over the longer term, dealing with complex issues that requires all partners of the PSB to work together, and with other public bodies and private organisations. Measuring and evaluating performance needs to allow for annual progress reporting and some short-term indicators, however, much of the work will take place over many years. This requires the right information to be tracked and used consistently to provide the PSB and the public with information on what is working well, what is working not so well and where changes to activities or strategic direction is required to achieve better well-being for the places and people of Torfaen.

Welsh Government has published a set of national well-being indicators to help measure the nation’s progress towards improving well-being. These indicators were not intended to be used to measure the performance of individual organisations, never-the-less, where local relevant data is available, the PSB will use them to help measure progress against its well-being objectives.

A pilot across the five PSBs in Gwent, to develop a regional Thriving Places Index, identifies 62 locally available indicators taken from a range of current open data sources including Stats Wales, the Office of National Statistics and the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation. We will also use these to help measure our progress in the round.

Appendix 7 sets out relevant national indicators that we will use to help measure progress against our well-being objectives.

PSB members will sponsor areas of activity under the well-being objectives and receive progress reports from lead officers. Where there are blockages or concerns, the sponsor will discuss with the whole PSB to identify appropriate action.

The PSB Overview & Scrutiny Committee will review the objectives and progress on the activities at least once a year as part of the annual reporting process.

The PSB will approve annual reports and publish them on the PSB website each autumn from 2019 onwards.

Welsh Government and the Future Generations Commissioner each have a role in monitoring PSB activity and outcomes. This will mainly be done through reviewing annual reports but also through engagement with PSBs on particular areas of well-being plans, through national events and two-way dialogue with PSBs, support officers, other public bodies and surveys of our populations.
The Wales Audit Office (WAO) has a duty under the Act to audit each of the 44 public bodies in Wales on their response and activities to the legislation. Whilst PSBs are not subject to auditing by the WAO, Torfaen PSB is participating in a voluntary pilot so the WAO can understand what and how individual bodies are contributing to the PSB agenda and what and how the PSB agenda is contributing to corporate work within each organisation. This pilot will help Torfaen PSB in developing our work programmes, especially in relation to how we work together.
8.0 Next steps

Figure 23 sets out the PSB’s well-being planning cycle.

- Implementation of this plan commences May 2018
- First annual report published October 2019
- Republishing the assessment in May 2022
- A new plan published in May 2023
- Review and refresh the assessment during 2021/22
- This plan will be reviewed following early work and an updated version published in May 2020

... and finally

Thank you for taking an interest in our plan to improve well-being in Torfaen. We have worked with people and businesses across our communities to develop the plan and we thank all those who gave us their time, thoughts and ideas at meetings, in answering surveys, attending road shows, engagement and consultation events.

We would like to thank the officers across all our partners who have provided information and contributed to the content. This is a partnership plan and will involve all our public services and communities to work together to carry out the areas for action set out in this plan. Only together can we realise our vision.

If you have any comments or queries you can contact the PSB support team at:

Public Services Support Unit, Torfaen County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pontypool NP4 6YB
Email: pssu@torfaen.gov.uk
References


http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/21708


Appendices

Appendix 1
Links between organisational well-being objectives and the PSB’s well-being objectives.

Appendix 2
Description of connected plans and strategies.

Appendix 3
Analysis of summer 2017 engagement activities.

Appendix 4
Analysis of autumn consultation responses on the draft plan.

Appendix 5

Appendix 6
Summary of the link between our collective well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.

Appendix 7
Relevant national indicators that we will use to help measure progress against our well-being objectives.