

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

14 December 2016

Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Scrutiny of the Public Services Board.

Purpose of the Report

1. This report aims to assist Members in identifying and agreeing the preferred way to undertake scrutiny of the Public Service Board.

Executive Summary

2. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a number of new duties on the Council but also provides powers to enable the work of the Public Services Board to be scrutinised by elected Members.
3. On 17th February 2016, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council agreed that the powers of scrutiny would be discharged by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee. Members now need to consider whether and how they wish to exercise these powers.

4. In considering how the powers might be used Members may wish to note that the Public Services Board for Neath Port Talbot was established by 1st April 2016, with the meeting of the statutory board members held in May 2016 and the first full Board meeting held in September 2016.
5. A priority for the Board is to prepare a Well Being Assessment of the Neath Port Talbot area. The Assessment must be completed by May 2017. The conclusions drawn out in the Wellbeing Assessment will be used to develop the Wellbeing Plan for the Neath Port Talbot area and this in turn will set the priorities for the Public Services Board over the longer term.
6. Additionally, the Board is also developing a scheme to involve interested persons in the Board's work.
7. Members may wish to take assurance that the Board has fully discharged the new duties placed upon it by Welsh Government in undertaking the Wellbeing Assessment and that the evidence base and analysis reflects the issues that are of importance to local people and the Council more generally. Members may also wish to take assurance that the Board is developing mechanisms to appropriately involve people in its work.

Financial Impact

8. There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

9. There are no Equality Impacts associated with this report.

Workforce Impacts

10. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

11. S35 of the Act places a duty on the Council to establish arrangements for the scrutiny of the Public Service Board.

Risk Management

12. There are no risk impacts associated with this report.

Consultation

13. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

That Members indicate whether and how they wish to exercise the powers of scrutiny contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

14. To take assurance that the Public Services Board is discharging the duties placed upon it by Welsh Government, in advance of the Council being required to formally consider and adopt the Wellbeing Plan for the area which must be published by May 2018.

Implementation of Decision

15. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

16. There are no appendices for this report.

List of Background Papers

17. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
[Well-Being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)
18. Council report of 17th February 2016
[Council Report 17.02.2016](#)

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