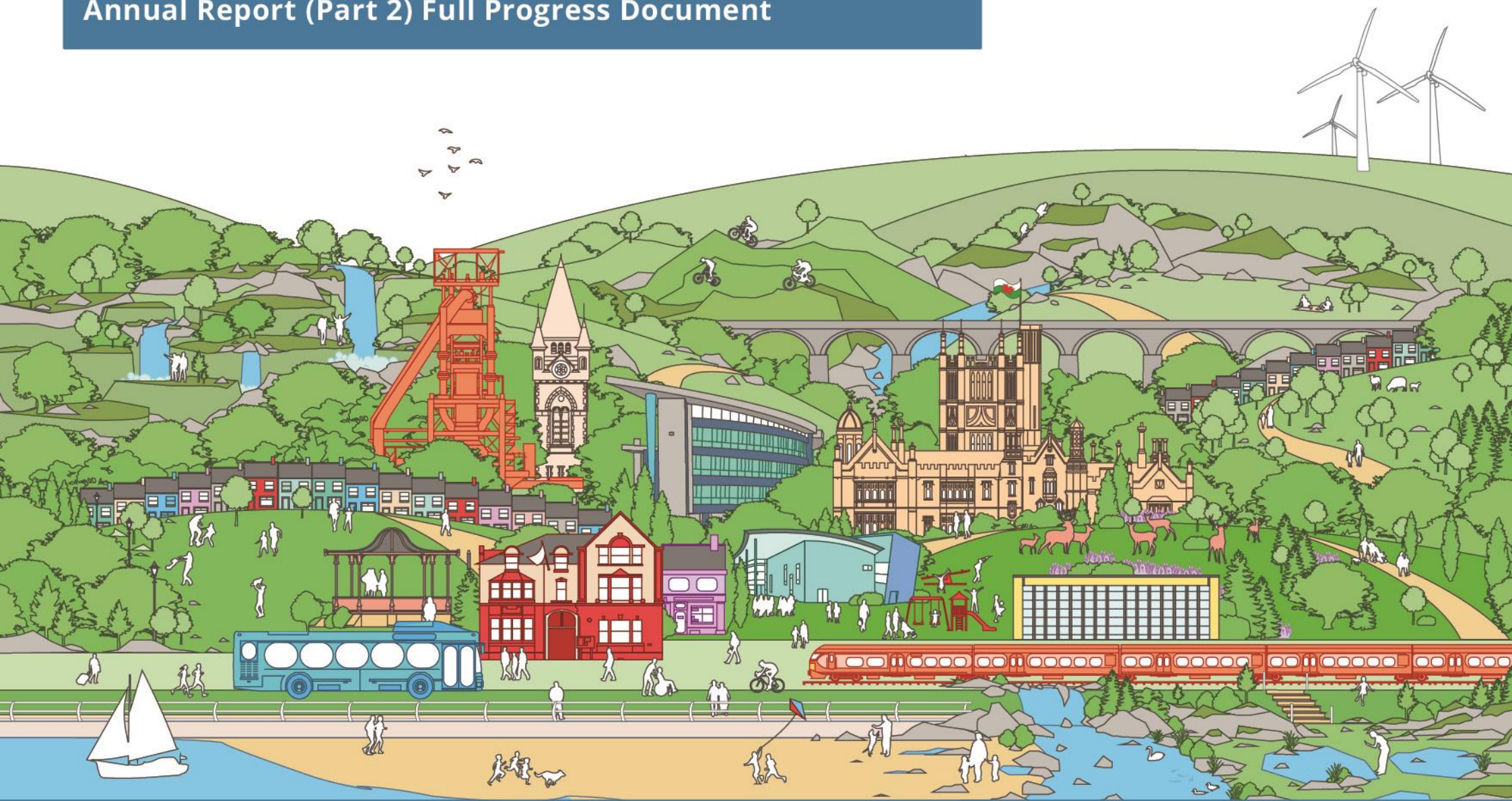


Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Annual Report (Part 2) Full Progress Document

Appendix 1



Corporate Plan 2017 - 2022 (period 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018)

www.npt.gov.uk/shapingnpt



FOREWORD

Last year, on 30th September 2017, we published a new Corporate Plan 2017-22 to comply with Welsh Government legislation called 'The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'. The new Plan sets out how we intend (through our three well-being objectives) to improve the well-being of people in the whole of the county borough and how we are demonstrating our contribution to the seven nation well-being goals set by Welsh Government.

I am pleased to present a full progress report based on our performance against our three well-being objectives, covering the period 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018. Although this report covers a relatively short period, overall we have made a good start to our journey to improve the well-being in the area. However, it is also clear that the significant cuts made to our budgets are placing some services under strain.

I hope you will find the information useful and I would welcome feedback from you.

Cllr R G Jones, Leader of Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R G Jones', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Introduction

Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, the Council is required to publish a forward looking improvement plan setting out our improvement priorities (known as improvement objectives) for the financial year ahead and an annual report to reflect back on the performance of that plan. Additionally, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the Council to set well-being objectives which seek to maximise the Council's contribution to the national well-being goals, whilst also embracing the sustainable development principle. The Council is further obliged to report each year on the extent to which the well-being objectives it has set have been achieved.

The first set of well-being objectives for the Council were required to be published by 1st April 2017. Due to the local government elections in May 2017, the former Council administration determined to set interim well-being objectives based on the extant Corporate Improvement Plan for the period to 30th September 2017. This provided for the current administration to be able to review the well-being objectives following the local government elections 2017 and to make changes as the new administration saw fit to reflect its own priorities.

As a result the Council had two sets of corporate objectives set in the 2017-18 financial year, one set covering the period 1st April to 30th September 2017 and the second covering 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018. Both sets of objectives respond to the 2009 Measure and the 2015 WBFG Act. We reported progress made against the first set of corporate objectives established by the predecessor authority in December 2017. This report provides an account of progress made against the three well-being objectives and associated improvement priorities set by the current Council over the remaining six months of the 2017-18 financial year.

Our performance

We have aimed to ensure that this Report presents a fair and balanced picture of our performance for our citizens. The Council has made a good start to implementing the programme set out in the Corporate Plan. Overall, we achieved most of what we set out to do in relation to our three well-being objectives. In the main, three quarters of the actions (Steps) are on track and a quarter just off track. None of the 78 Steps have an overall RED status (which would indicate that the step is off track). A more detailed assessment can be found later in this report under: **Performance of our Well-being objectives, Improvement priorities and Steps**

As far as the national performance indicators are concerned, broadly speaking, the Council has maintained performance across the areas covered by the national indicators compared to 2016-2017, with a small number showing improvement and a small number showing a reduction in performance. However, performance compared to other local authorities has declined across a range of indicators. Given the cuts in financial and human resources over a sustained period of time this is considered to be a good performance.

In preparing this annual report, the Council is required to consider whether the current well-being objectives remain relevant or whether changes to those objectives should be considered. Given that the objectives were only agreed in September 2017 and were reviewed in March 2018, it is not considered necessary to make any changes at this point in time.

Since the Corporate Plan was last updated, the Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board has published its Well-being Plan. There are already clear links between some of the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan and Well-being Plan. When the Corporate Plan is next revised, the links to each of the priorities expressed in the Well-being Plan will be further clarified.

Our Vision

- We want our county borough to be a place where everyone has an equal chance to get on in life – a place where people want to live, work and bring up their family
- We want our beautiful natural environment, and our rich cultural and industrial heritage to be appreciated and protected for many future generations to enjoy. We also want to pursue new and existing opportunities for economic growth so we can sustain our diverse communities for many years to come

To achieve our vision, we set three strategic objectives – our well-being objectives. These well-being objectives fulfil the requirement under (s3(2)(a)) of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Supporting each well-being objective are improvement priorities. The improvement priorities fulfil different legal requirements set out in (s3(1)) the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

Well-being Statement

The well-being objectives, improvement priorities and detailed steps have been designed to deliver the manifesto commitments of the Council administration that was elected in May 2017. In this respect there is already strong public support for the core elements of the Plan. The objectives also respond to the challenges and opportunities identified as facing the Council over the term of the administration, including the various legal duties that are placed upon the Council. The objectives were subject of public consultation over the summer 2017, which confirmed there was broad support for these objectives and their associated improvement priorities with many respondents encouraging the Council to set the well-being of children and young people as its most important objective.

Our first objective prioritises the well-being of all children and young people who live in the county borough. It addresses well-being at all stages of childhood through to the point where young people become adults. The second focuses on the well-being of people throughout their adulthood, and also takes a life course approach. Our third objective addresses the factors that impact on well-being where the Council has a direct responsibility for those factors or can significantly influence those factors.

The steps we will take to achieve the objectives and related improvement priorities demonstrate how we intend to maximise our contribution to the seven well-being goals set by the Welsh Government. We believe the life course approach to the first two objectives, coupled with attention to all of the factors that impact upon well-being, provides a framework for the long term and for adopting preventative approaches which the Council can build upon in each review period.

The objectives are corporate well-being objectives and each of the objectives interacts with the other two, so they need to be considered as a whole. The expectation is that services integrate their work across the Council where this enables us to maximise the impact we can have on the objectives, as well as integrating and collaborating with other partners where this makes sense.

We also considered the well-being objectives that had been published to date by other public bodies and partners. In particular, we examined the Well-being Assessment published by the Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board (PSB) and the priorities set out in the PSB's Well-being Plan. We have also begun to explore how we can work together with our town and community councils and the voluntary sector in new ways so that we can maximise the impact we have collectively to the benefit of citizens and communities.

Securing good governance and continuous improvement of the Council

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 place a general duty on local authorities to secure continuous improvement of their functions. We do this by ensuring that our governance arrangements are fit for purpose. Governance arrangements are reviewed by a Corporate Governance Group who prepare an Annual Governance Statement and oversee any improvement work set out in the Statement. The work is reported to the Cabinet, Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and the Audit Committee on a systematic basis. You can find the latest copy of the Annual Governance Statement [here](#) (contained within the 2017-18 Statement of Accounts).

Governance arrangements have been revised to support the new duties set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The revisions already made are summarised below, together with a brief note of the further improvements that the Council plans to make in the next period.

Risk Management – Following review by the Wales Audit Office, the Council's Corporate Risk Management Policy has been updated to reflect improvements made to the way in which both strategic risks and operational risks are recorded, managed and reported. The revised Policy will continue to promote an open, consistent and proactive risk management attitude and enable us to better monitor our risks over the short, medium and long term. In order to strengthen the underpinning risk management process, a new integrated corporate performance and risk management system (CPMS) was introduced. This went live on 31st March 2018. The Council has not yet reviewed the risks set out in the risk register through the lens of the national well-being goals and associated sustainable development principle. Now that the system for risk management has been considerably strengthened, as part of the ongoing refining of risk management arrangements, opportunity will be taken to test the risks suggested in statutory guidance.

Performance management - The Council's CPMS enables the integration of the Council's strategic planning, performance management and risk management arrangements. Some key benefits of the system to be realised will include: less onerous production of reports; clearer links between strategies and plans; and streamlining / simplifying existing data collection processes. In implementing the new CPMS,

the Council has taken the opportunity to ensure that there is a golden thread running from the three corporate well-being objectives, through to key corporate strategies and to service business plans. This enables the Council to clearly demonstrate how its functions contribute to the Council's well-being objectives which in turn support the national well-being goals. Now that the Public Services Board has published its Well-being Plan, future revisions of the corporate plan and associated activity will demonstrate how the Council's priorities are informing and are informed by the PSB priorities.

Corporate planning – The Council has fundamentally revised the format and scope of the corporate plan to meet existing duties set out in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 but also the new requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Likewise, arrangements for the Council's annual reporting arrangements have been amended to meet the new duties. In making these changes, the Council has not only been mindful to meet the new technical requirements of the various statutory duties, the Council has also sought to improve the accessibility of information to better engage all stakeholders in the Council's work, making use of a wide range of channels and multi-media techniques. The intention is that there will be a continuous flow of information about the way in which the Council is taking steps to deliver its well-being objectives and demonstrating how it is embracing the sustainable development principle in so doing.

Financial planning – In 2017-2018, we achieved our target budget savings of £5.779 million, bringing the cumulative spending reductions to £83 million since 2010. The total net revenue expenditure was £273.596 million. The budget was prepared in the context of the Corporate Plan, based on the three well-being objectives. The Council has worked hard, with its partners to strike the right balance in its overall proposals. This has included: protection for some services that enable early intervention and prevention activities that reduce demand on public services whilst promoting well-being; protection for integrated services that have been established to deliver more joined up services for citizens; protection for services that have a long term impact on sustainability; and protection for key collaborative arrangements. The areas that have been protected most are reflected in the three well-being objectives that the Council has set.

Workforce planning – In June 2018, we approved a Corporate Workforce Plan. The purpose of our Workforce Plan (a copy can be found [here](#)) is to enable us to address the workforce implications of our Corporate Plan. It sets out the actions we need to take to achieve our objectives and also takes into account the cultural change we need to bring about as envisaged by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Senior officers, service managers and elected members have received some training on the WBFGA. In 2018-19 further training will be delivered to ensure there is systematic consideration of the well-being objectives set by the Council, the national well-being goals and the extent to which the sustainable development principle is being applied in practice.

Asset Management – We continued to strengthen arrangements for effective management of our physical assets and facilities. An example of this was supporting the third sector and community groups to sustain community access to facilities that they operate for the benefit of our communities. During the six month period, four council owned assets were leased to voluntary/community groups and organisations. Arrangements for asset management are well-established with clear links to strategic and service planning and the Council's capital and revenue budget arrangements. The reduction in financial resources available to the Council is placing considerable pressure on this area of work and the associated risks are set out in the Council's risk registers.

As far as the notion of "assets" in its widest sense is concerned, the Council is developing a corporate approach to asset based community development and this work is firmly linked to the priorities set out by the Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board.

Procurement – To date the Council has complied with Welsh Government Procurement Policy for example, by ensuring that contracts over the value of £1,000,000 include community benefits clauses.

In line with good practice, when embarking on tender exercises via Sell2Wales, consideration is now being given for all tenders to determine whether community benefits should be utilised and can be generated for the type of contract being considered thereby ensuring benefits to the organisation, society and economy. Consideration is given to all contracts now advertised on Sell2Wales as to whether contracts should be

split into “Lots” or smaller arrangements to facilitate the opportunity for smaller organisations to bid for elements of contracts if they are unable to bid for larger packages, thereby enabling smaller and local organisations to play an active role in procurement processes and allow more development to SME’s and local organisations.

Also contracts and tender documents have now been simplified to allow all organisations regardless of size and experience in tendering to have the opportunity to take part in processes.

In addition to offering contracts for services, the Council also has a Third Sector Grant Scheme that was co-produced with representatives of the local third sector. The Grant Scheme and associated Compact partnership agreement, makes a direct reference to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, encouraging third sector organisations to work in partnership with the Council in pursuit of the Council’s own well-being objectives and in turn the national well-being goals.

Collaboration with other public bodies

The Council collaborates on a very wide range of activities on different geographic footprints and with a considerable number of groups and agencies. Throughout the Corporate Plan and reflected in this annual report is clear evidence of those collaborative arrangements. Now that the Public Services Board has produced its Well-being Plan, future revisions of the corporate plan will demonstrate how the Council’s priorities inform and are informed by the PSB’s Well-being Plan.

Communicating our progress

Earlier this year, the Corporate Communications and Community Relations Strategy (2018-2020) was approved. The Strategy has been developed to help us meet the requirement under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to involve people in the work that the Council carries out. It has also been designed to make our collective communications and community relations efforts more consistent, effective and relevant and to




support the delivery of the new Corporate Plan approved by Council on 29th March 2018. The new Strategy sets out a range of measures designed to improve the effectiveness of the Council's mechanisms for involving people in its work. A new area on the Council's website 'ShapingNPT' has been designed to improve communications and engagement. The aim is to improve awareness of what the Council does and encourage engagement by simplifying the narrative around the Council's Corporate Plan and Annual Reports. We are using citizens' and wider stakeholders' stories to bring the Council's work to life and celebrate successes, but we are also highlighting areas where more work needs to be done to achieve our objectives

Equality

The Equality Impact Assessment framework was revised during 2017-2018 to create a new Integrated Impact Assessment. This will assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016). Training for reporting officers is scheduled for 2018-2019.

Work to integrate the Council's equality priorities with the revised corporate plan is well-advanced, although the current legal requirements do not yet enable the Council to move to a single planning and reporting arrangement. More details of the work that the Council has done to take forward the actions set out in the Strategic Equality Plan can be found in the annual report for the Strategic Equality Plan. [Insert link](#)

The next section provides a detailed assessment of how we have performed against each of the Steps set out to achieve our three well-being objectives. This also includes an overall RAG status against each Step based on the following key:

| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
|  | On the whole, on track to deliver what was planned in the period |  | Just off track, not delivered some of what was planned in the period |  | Generally off track in delivering what was planned, in terms of timescales or may not be delivered |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|


Performance of our Well-being objectives, Improvement priorities and Steps


Well-being objective 1 - To improve the well-being of children and young people


How this well-being objective contributes to the seven national well-being goals:

| National Goals | Contribution to each goal |
|---------------------------------|---|
| A prosperous Wales | The suite of priorities and steps aim, collectively, to ensure that every child and young person enters employment, education or training at the end of full-time education ready to contribute socially and economically. |
| A healthier Wales | Every school in NPT is a “Healthy School” and the county borough also has good participation rates in physical activity. We have made good progress placing greater emphasis on emotional well-being to equip children and young people with the skills, behaviours and support they need. Additionally, parenting programmes are targeting those families most in need of support. The Council has good data to identify where there are differences in attainment and outcomes for children and young people of different backgrounds with programmes in place to address inequality and inequity. |
| A Wales of cohesive communities | There is a strong emphasis on ensuring equality and celebrating diversity across the range of activities. There is also recognition and work to address inequalities in all of its forms, whether in relation to statutory duties concerned with people of protected characteristics, inequality caused by disparities in income, or by virtue of whether children and young people are cared for by their own families or the council. Programmes to educate and divert children and young people about wider community safety programmes are well-established. We have been continuously reviewing our programmes to ensure that they remain relevant. For example, equipping children and young people to stay safe on-line has become a key area of focus given Child Sexual Exploitation, radicalisation and other on-line criminality. |
| A resilient Wales | Children and young people are introduced to the importance of the eco systems and our environment at an early stage. The pilot project planned for Sandfields West is exploring in more detail how we can take advantage of the green and blue space in our county borough to develop the wellbeing of our children and young people. |
| A more equal Wales | Reducing inequality and inequity is a strong theme across the priorities that have been developed to support the achievement of this objective. |


| National Goals | Contribution to each goal |
|--|--|
| | There is a particular focus on children most at risk of an adverse childhood experience with the intention of strengthening prevention and early intervention work. We are also building on our children's rights work to ensure that children and young people have a say in matters that affect them. |
| A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language | The county borough has good rates of participation in physical activity and there are a wide range of cultural opportunities. We are strengthening Welsh and bi-lingual education in both pre-school and full time education settings. A task and finish group set up by the Policy and Resources Committee has also developed the Council's Welsh Promotional Strategy which will support the Council's objectives to increase the number of people who can speak Welsh and who do so on a daily basis. |
| A globally responsible Wales | There are many ways in which our work contributes to the wider world. For example, the technological investment through our 21st Century Schools programme is transforming the way in which children and young people access learning, bringing experiences from across the world into NPT classrooms, whilst also building skills fit for the future labour markets. |


| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: Children in their early years will benefit from integrated and effective pre-school programmes that maximise their well-being and their readiness for learning | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| Promote and develop the Community Services Directory so that children, young people and families can easily access information about the services available in local communities to support good well-being | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continued to compile and input data into the Community Directory • We continuously promote Family Information Service (FIS) through social media platforms and the Family Information Friendly Award in childcare settings and schools. Settings/schools achieve the award by promoting the FIS on their social media pages and distributing leaflets to parents/carers. The website has a range of service information which include: childcare, health, leisure, play and training • Hits to FIS website have been lower than the previous year due to webpage updates being held back and webpages not being user friendly as we would like them to be. We are now working on the website to re-design it to be more user friendly • There has been an increase in the number of hits to the Community Services Directory website and the number of service/organisation information listed on the site • Both the Community Services Directory and Family Information Service (FIS) databases have moved to a new database with effect from July 2018: DEWIS, which will be a more user friendly and will display information more clearly with a much quicker and intuitive search process. DEWIS is a national platform used by all Councils throughout Wales, which will benefit residents who are close to neighbouring boundaries as the search will include out of County services which may be closer to them <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of hits on the Community Services Directory website:</p> |  |


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| Improvement Priority 1: Children in their early years will benefit from integrated and effective pre-school programmes that maximise their well-being and their readiness for learning | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 42,810 Target 2017-18: To increase Actual 2017-18: 47,473 <p>Number of Services/organisations on the community directory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 916 Target 2017-18: To increase Actual 2017-18: 1,054 | |
| We will implement the Government’s programme to increase the availability and quality of child care provision once resources have been made available | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of registered out of school places was lower than anticipated but support has been given to childcare providers in order to increase the availability and quality of service Flying Start expanded the existing provision in Neath (English medium) and Briton Ferry (Welsh medium) to meet existing Flying Start demand, and cater for some additional Childcare Offer placements from Sept 2018 The 30 Hour Childcare Programme (Childcare Offer Wales) was not available to families in 2017/18. Welsh Government piloted this in a small number of authorities last year but NPT has only been invited to take part from September 2018, which has affected some planned work |  AMBER |


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| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of childcare places available for families, particularly out of school childcare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 2017-18: 281 • Actual 2017-18: 240 | |
| We will review links between early years' programmes and schools to ensure they are developed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have updated our transition guidance for childcare settings this year, which has improved the transition from home into Flying Start Childcare. This includes setting work with parents and use Person Centred Planning to complete One Page Profiles for each child. Families are encouraged to attend stay and play sessions before the child starts playgroup to help familiarise themselves with the setting and staff • We continue to hold Multi-Disciplinary meetings for children with Additional Needs transitioning to school from early years • We have piloted termly transition meetings, in two Flying Start areas (Neath / Melin and the Afan Valley) to exchange information on those children due to start school, so that schools are better prepared in putting the right support in place for these children. These meetings have proved to be very useful and as a result we will be rolling these out to cover all Flying Start areas • During the year, Flying Start parents have engaged in the nurture programme, designed to improve parents well-being and to improve the quality of family life. These have included: a 4 week ante-natal nurture workshop (introduction or refresher) and a 10 week programme (group work or one to one basis). 13 structured courses were delivered with a total of 105 parents completing the |  |

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|--|---|---------------------------------|
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| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>programmes. As a result all parents complete the Warwick assessment, and results have shown a good level of improvement in emotional and mental wellbeing, and feel more able to take control of their lives for the better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the measures below, we undertook a review of priorities, which identified the survey will no longer be conducted. <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Schools report that children are better prepared to participate in play and learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target: Annual Flying Start survey conducted by Flying Start team with all primary schools • Actual: Baselines not yet established/collated. Database is under development <p>% of participants that have accessed an Early intervention service demonstrate improved emotional and mental well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target: Establish baseline for 2017/18 • Actual: Baselines not yet established/collated. Database is under development <p>Families that have engaged in intervention programmes report that they feel they can contribute to changes to their lifestyle/behaviours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target: Establish baseline for 2017/18 • Actual: Baselines not yet established/collated. Database is under development | |



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|--|---|---|
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| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| <p>Review 0–3 support, provision and information sharing in non-Flying Start areas</p> <p>Review of Personal Social Development (PSD) curriculum and assessment within schools (direct impact on social and emotional and wellbeing)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review has not commenced but is planned for 2018/19. The review will focus on provision and information sharing to support children aged 0-3 and will be extended to include both Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas • Transition arrangements and information sharing in relation to all children moving from childcare to school will be looked at as part of the work of Transition sub group of the Early Years and Childcare Group • A free programme of training opportunities has been provided to encourage and support all children’s’ development, helping to prepare them to participate in play and learning at school. A total of 373 attendances were recorded across the programme, courses included: Inclusive Play, Forest Schools, Effective Engagement with Parents, Understanding Special Educational Needs, Child Development and the Role of the Adult and Outdoor Play • The review of the PSD curriculum has been completed and has been implemented at school level and as a result we have seen improved reliability and accuracy of teacher assessments. This has impacted on the percentage of pupils achieving outcome 5 in PSD in 2018: 87% - which is down 4% • Following the review, we are now able to track progress from their baseline assessment (on entry to full time education) to the end of year 2. 66% of pupils in the current cohort were at the expected level on entry to school and 87% are at the expected level at the end of foundation phase |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 2: Families struggling to provide good parenting for their children will be provided with tailored support | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| With our partners we will refine our wider Think Families Partnership work to more effectively target early intervention and prevention support to those families who need it; and alleviate child poverty ensuring in the process that there is better local alignment and co-ordinated approach to providing support between the work of the partnerships established to address child adverse experiences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following on from an independent needs assessment of Families First in NPT, a commissioning process has been undertaken for delivery of a new programme of services to begin 1st April 2018 A new referral pathway has been identified using the Single Point of Contact. All referrals will now be considered by an Early Intervention and Prevention Panel to ensure families receive the most appropriate service at the earliest opportunity. The panel will also reduce duplication of services and provide a more co-ordinated approach for families |  |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| <p>The Council will review our approach to community development to ensure that the whole council empowers communities to strengthen their own capacity to improve health and wellbeing and that all children and young people can fully participate in a range of activities that promotes their social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have delivered an innovative programme of activities for children and young people both within the school setting and the community. These include: after school sport clubs, beach rugby delivered in partnership with the Ospreys, multi skills festival at Llandarcy delivered in partnership with NPT College, Young Ambassador (YA) leadership training and the YA conference, park lives offering a range of activities in holidays for free in parks / open areas The Youth Service has increased its reach by increasing the work delivered in schools; this includes lunch clubs and Sexual Relationship Education session. This is above the Welsh average for contacts and reach. The biggest increase in contacts has come from the 14-16 age range The Youth Service has maintained its open access youth clubs in 11 community based youth clubs and has continued to access grants to provide targeted support to vulnerable groups such as Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and young people with speech, language and communication needs <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % of children hooked on sport (based on number of occasions of participation per week = 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 55% Target: Improve Actual 2017-18: 2018 Schools Sport Survey results will be available October 2018 |  |



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| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | % of 11 - 19 year olds in contact with the Youth Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 36.7% Target 2017-18: Improve Actual 2017-18: 44.12% | |
| We will raise educational standards and attainment for all children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 out of 7 NPT schools inspected during this period have achieved a ‘Good’ for standards in Estyn inspections Nearly all schools are making appropriate progress in effective self-evaluation and planning for improved standards The wide ranging changes (imposed by Welsh Government) to Key Stage 4 key indicator calculations in 2017 has affected NPT results, as they have in all other local authorities, and now places NPT below the Welsh average in all measures. The decrease in performance was most marked in mathematics and affected free school meals and non-free school meal pupils alike Primary school attendance has risen from 94.6% to 94.7% and was above the anticipated target (all Wales performance was 94.9%). Secondary attendance has dropped slightly to 93.6% from 93.7% (all Wales performance was 94.1%). This is due to a difficult period in terms of a higher than average amount of recorded illness amongst pupils in a number of schools <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Percentage of Year 11 pupils achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, or equivalent, including English or Welsh first language and Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 61% (2015/16 academic year) Target: Improve |  |


| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2017-18: 51.4% (2016/17 academic year) - Based on Welsh Government’s recommendation; comparisons with previous year’s data should be avoided as several key changes have been made to the data. NPT are ranked 14th of 22 authorities based on 2016/17 data <p>% pupils attendance in primary schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 94.6% (2015/16 academic year) Target 2017-18: 94.5% Actual 2017-18: 94.7% (2016/17 academic year) <p>% pupils attendance in secondary schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 93.7% (2015/16 academic year) Target 2017-18: 93.6% Actual 2017-18: 93.6% (2016/17 academic year) | |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will further develop our Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP), following feedback from the Welsh Government, so that we increase opportunities for more of our children and young people to be educated through the medium of Welsh and for pupils to become more proficient in speaking Welsh | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New WESP has been submitted to Welsh Government and all objectives are monitored regularly • The % of year 2 (aged 7) children taught through the medium of Welsh has declined by 0.4% to 16.2% (2016/17 academic year) • Number of pupils transferring from primary to secondary has declined by 6.2% to 86.9% (2016/17 academic year) • The % of Year 9 (aged 13-14) learners who are assessed in Welsh (first language) has declined by 1.7% to 11.2% (2016/17 academic year) <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % learners aged 14-15 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh achieving 5 GCSEs grade A*-C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 97% (2015/16 academic year) • Target 2017-18: 97% • Actual 2017-18: 100% (2016/17 academic year) |  |
| We will continue with our Strategic School Improvement Programme of school reorganisation, ensuring the right schools are in the right place and that they provide fit for purpose teaching and learning facilities to help improve standards and pupil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera:</u> an ‘all-through’ school providing Welsh-medium education for pupils aged 3-18 in the north of the county borough. The primary phase build has been completed in April and pupils moved into their new building in June 2018 • <u>Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur:</u> Welsh-medium education for pupils aged 11-16 in the south of the county borough. From September 2018, year 7 and 8 pupils living in the south of the county borough will move to the new south campus |  |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| <p>outcomes.</p> <p>We will complete the existing phase of our 21st Century Schools programme of projects, providing modern, stimulating and innovative school environments.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ysgol Carreg Hir:</u> a new primary school to replace Brynhyfryd, Ynysmaerdy and Llansawel Primary schools. The build is on schedule to open in September 2018 and construction is progressing well. Site visits have taken place and a staffing structure has been agreed • <u>Ysgol Cwm Brombil:</u> an ‘all-through’ 3–16 school to replace Dyffryn Upper and Lower school and Groes Primary School. The build is on schedule and construction is progressing well. Site visits have taken place and a staffing structure has been agreed. The school opens in September 2018 with the new build being occupied in the autumn term • <u>Future of secondary education in the upper Afan Valley:</u> in June, Cabinet approved the issue of the statutory notice for the proposal to provide secondary education at Ysgol Cwm Brombil for pupils living in the upper Afan Valley and to close Cymer Afan Comprehensive School • <u>Provision for primary aged pupils identified with social emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD):</u> approval has been granted to establish two specialist provisions: an assessment centre at Coedffranc Primary School and a learning support centre at Crynallt Primary School. Building works are progressing well and it is expected that the provisions will be ready for the 2018 summer term. Staff, for both provisions, have been appointed | |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will seek funding from the Welsh Government to deliver the next phase of our new school build programme so that more of our children and young people can experience and benefit from modern, state of the art teaching and learning facilities | Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Education Programme (B and B) funding has been secured, in principle, for capital build projects comprising of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefn Saeson Comprehensive - new build English-medium secondary school • Ysgol Newydd (Cwmtawe) - new build English-medium primary phase in a 3-16 school • Abbey Primary School - new build English-medium primary school • Ysgol Newydd (Coed Darcy) - new build primary school |  |
| We will develop a mental health toolkit for all schools to further develop a culture of tolerance, understanding and mutual respect of difference and diversity and build capacity within schools to support vulnerable children and young people with mental health needs | <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Target / Aspiration: All schools will use the toolkit effectively to support pupils to improve wellbeing and develop resilience, with the aim of reducing risk of mental health issues.</p> <p>Progress: The Wellbeing and Behaviour Continuum has been launched starting with a universal approach to embedding wellbeing in schools. This approach will continue to be developed in schools during the next academic year (2018-19).</p> |  |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|--|
| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will pilot the Children’s Zones model in the Sandfields West and Briton Ferry West wards • This work supports Objective 1: Support children in their early years, especially children at risk of adverse childhood experiences’ contained within the NPT Public Service Board’s Well-being Plan 2018 – 2023 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have undertaken a range of consultation exercises with the Ward’s community and will be bringing together a dedicated strategy that will ensure greater collaborative working to increase children’s preparedness for learning and decrease numbers of NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training) The engagement work mentioned above was carried out specifically to support the pilot and will be used to take it forward in 2018/19. There has been a need to gather a lot of data for us to understand how to target the work of the Children’s Zone hence a delay in this work. The aim of the work will focus primarily on two key areas of development – pre-school provision and preparedness for learning; and post-16 progress and support into education, employment or training |  |
| We will develop a co-ordinated approach to meeting duties set out in the Additional Learning Needs Education and Training Bill (ALNET) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raising events are underway with schools and in partnership with other services and agencies Working parties for key areas of reform are being established and a local implementation plan is in place NPT is working with regional Heads of Inclusion to develop a regional plan and allocate grant funding Planning for implementation with NPT College is being progressed |  |


| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 3: Children of school age will be engaged with their learning, safer and healthier | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will work with our partners to implement our Road Safety Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues with our partners to ensure that our Road Safety Strategy is implemented • We provided education and training to identify vulnerable road users which included motorcyclists, cyclists, young pedestrians, young and older drivers • We collaborated and shared good practice with Road Safety teams across Wales, Road Safety Wales, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), Fire and Rescue Service and South Wales Police |  |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 4: Children in need of protection, care and support will be protected and safeguarded and more of those children will be able to grow up in a family setting | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| With our partners, we will further develop our family support strategy to ensure the right range and quality of services are in place to meet need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have worked closely with partners involved in the Think Family Partnership Strategic Group to redesign the services that are commissioned and provided by Family First Grant funding. The new services are aimed at preventing children and families entering the service • An Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP) panel has been developed to decide on priorities and appropriate allocation of resources • A weekly Resource Panel continues to operate to consider cases that are deemed on the Edge of Care and to allocate a range of services provided by the Family Action Support Team (FAST) and Integrated Family Support Services (IFSS) to support children where possible to remain at home with their families |  |
| We will undertake focused work with partners to improve access to the right support for children and young people who have poor emotional well-being/mental health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPT took the lead on a pilot project for all Looked After Children and Foster Carers. The service was supported by a Lead Clinical Psychologist and commissioned Therapeutic Service with the aim of promoting young people's emotional well-being and mental health. Integrated care funding has since been confirmed for 2018-19 where the service will be expanded to deliver across the region |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 4: Children in need of protection, care and support will be protected and safeguarded and more of those children will be able to grow up in a family setting | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will further strengthen arrangements that support young people who receive care and support when they are young and who continue to need care and support when they are adults (ensuring smooth transition from service receive in childhood to those services that will support them as young adults) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have appointed two members of Children and Young People Services team to form part of a joint Children and Young People and Adult's team to support the progression of young people with complex needs as they move into adulthood. However, difficulties in recruiting additional staff from Adult Services and a Team Manager have delayed progress. A number of accommodation options are also being explored for the location of the new team |  |
| We will further develop our role as corporate parents of children and young people who become looked after by the Council, prioritising work to ensure children and young people are stable in their placements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure base attachment training has been successfully delivered to a group of pilot foster carers with the plan to roll this out across the entire Fostering Team in due course The Fostering team were actively involved in developing a regional approach to recruitment and there was an increase in the number of foster carer applications and approvals from experienced carers with other fostering agencies Review of children placed under 'voluntary accommodation' for more than 7 weeks continued to ensure appropriate consideration was given to their legal status A Therapeutic team has been established, which consists of a Psychologist, Consultant Social Worker and Play Therapist. The team is responsible for taking referrals from across the Service to provide a range of support to Foster |  |



| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 4: Children in need of protection, care and support will be protected and safeguarded and more of those children will be able to grow up in a family setting | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>Carers, Looked after Children and provide consultation to Social Workers to promote placement stability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of placement breakdowns increased more than anticipated • % of children and young people who report that they live in the right home for them broadly remained the same • % children and young people reporting that they are happy with the people they live with marginally increased <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>% of placements that break down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 4.4% • Target 2017-18: Maintain or improve • Actual 2017-18: 9.9% <p>% of children and young people who report that they live in the right home for them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 90% • Target 2017-18: Maintain or increase • Actual 2017-18: 89.4% <p>% children and young people reporting that they are happy with the people they live with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 91.5% • Target 2017-18: Maintain or increase • Actual 2017-18: 91.9% | |


| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: All young people who leave full- time education will enter employment, training or further/higher education | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| The Council will provide work placement, apprenticeships and trainee opportunities for young people within its own workforce, in particular providing opportunities for Looked After Children | We provided the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 children of school age received work experience for 1–2 weeks • 15 traineeships of between 6–12 months, of these, 13 of the trainees were former Looked After Children • 55 apprenticeships (within a qualification framework) <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of apprenticeship, traineeship and work placements opportunities made available in each year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 48 • Target 2017-18: 65 • Actual 2017-18: 86 |  |
| The Council will encourage Public Services Board and other partners to extend the range of work opportunities for young people and better connect these schemes with schools and colleges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Youth Engagement Strategy Group (YES Group) met regularly to monitor the implementation of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework and the Youth Engagement Strategy • The YES Group continue to implement and maintain a county wide approach to increasing young people aged 11-24's engagement in education, employment and training and to reduce the numbers of young people who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) in Neath Port Talbot • Junior apprenticeships are currently being developed with a September 2018 start date for year 10 pupils. A significant performance indicator for this programme will be a successful completion of either level 1 or 2 qualification • We are organising a pilot programme with information about apprenticeships for 4 secondary schools. This programme will engage with pupils in years 9, 10 and 11 and will run until December 2018 |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: All young people who leave full- time education will enter employment, training or further/higher education | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| Working through the Think Families Partnership we will improve information about career and job opportunities for school and college leavers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Engagement Progression Co-ordinator liaises with Careers Wales to help identify and promote opportunities for all young people such as college courses, apprenticeships, work based learner provider opportunities and employment • The legacy fund team work in partnership with Careers Wales with the most vulnerable young people to achieve a positive transition into further learning, training or employment • The Youth Engagement Strategy Group and NEET Multi Agency Group meet regularly to ensure that young people receive the right offer of career and job opportunity that is appropriate to them. The groups also look at ensuring the offers made or taken up by young people are as supportive as possible and if a young person disengages with a provision they are identified as early as possible and a renewed offer and support is sought • Transition meetings are held with Youth Workers, Careers Advisors and Schools to ensure that young people identified as being most at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) are given the appropriate level of support needed to help them achieve a positive transition into further education, employment or training • Work Based Learning roadshows are offered to all schools where young people have the opportunity to look at a range of work based learning opportunities, so that they are able to make a more informed choice on their transition • Communities First Legacy Youth Workers offer a range of support to young |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: All young people who leave full- time education will enter employment, training or further/higher education | | |
| | people in schools such as interview support, training, cv help and arranging work based learning provider visits to help elevate some of the fears and concerns that young people have and to also remove some potential barriers to transition | |
| We will build on our work as Corporate Parents to ensure that all young people have suitable housing and support when they leave the care of the Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is ongoing to monitor existing service provision and develop services to include the ability to meet the needs of more complex young people • A scoping exercise has been undertaken to review the accommodation needs required by the service • No care leavers experienced homelessness during the year <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> % care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 3% • Target 2017-18: Reduce • Actual 2017-18: 0% |  |
| We will review our youth engagement and progression framework | We review our youth engagement and progression priorities on an ongoing basis, the following were completed in the period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition support for young people identified by Schools and Careers Wales developed with Communities First Legacy Funding was used to provide youth workers for all secondary schools. • Tier 1 and 2 NEET young people continued to be identified and supported by youth workers, communities for work and the engagement progression co-ordinator • Youth Engagement Strategy Group and NEETs Multi Agency Group established and meeting regularly. YES (Youth Engagement Strategy) group continues to develop its role as the link between corporate strategy and |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|--|
| Improvement Priority 5: All young people who leave full- time education will enter employment, training or further/higher education | | |
| | <p>operational delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced the % of young people transitioning into a NEET destination with NPT’s lowest ever figure of 2.3% <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u></p> <p>% of young people who are NEET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 3.6% Target 2017-18: 3.6% Actual 2017-18: 2.3% | |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 6: All children and young people will be helped to have a say in matters that affect them | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| The Council will review its approach to Children’s Rights, ensuring that a rights-based approach is embedded across all of its services and functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Wellbeing and Behaviour Conference was effective in promoting a universal approach to well-being. The Unicef, Rights Respecting Schools (RRS) award is being used as a framework for this All schools have been allocated funding to sign up for the RRS and a service level agreement will be developed with Unicef UK to further support schools to embed it |  |
| All children and young people in need of protection, or who have been identified as in need of care and support, will have a say in decisions that affect them | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality assurance thematic audits are conducted on a monthly basis and provide the service with an understanding of what is working well and what areas need to be improved. The findings of these audits continue to be reported to Members on a quarterly basis as one of the service’s key priority indicators The model of outcome focused social work practice continued to be driven across all social work teams. This model of practice enables practitioners to work with children and families to discuss personal well-being goals and co-produce solutions, so that children remain safe in their family home and receive the best start in life, whilst also taking account of “what matters” to them. However, it is recognised that more work is needed to gather the collective view of children and families and utilise this feedback to drive improvements in social work practice at both a strategic and operational level. This area of work remains a key priority for the service for 2018-19 The Welsh Government’s qualitative questionnaire process was initiated on 1st September 2017. Following completion of the exercise in December 2017, the response rate to the questionnaire for children and young people was |  |

| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 6: All children and young people will be helped to have a say in matters that affect them | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>approximately 30%. Outcomes of the survey results are below:</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>% Children and young people responding “yes” or “sometimes” to the question: “my views about my care and support have been listened to”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 92.7% • Target 2017-18: Maintain • Actual 2017-18: 91.0% <p>% parents responding “yes” or “sometimes” to the question “I have been actively involved in all decisions about how my child’s children’s care and support was provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 85.7% • Target 2017-18: Improve • Actual 2017-18: 82.9% | |
| We will work with our Think Family partners to ensure children and young people can shape and develop services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An independent needs assessment of Families First in NPT has been carried out and groups of young people were consulted with on services. The information from this needs assessment informed the commissioning of the new Families First programme • All new contracts under Families First this year have a requirement to continually consult with children and young people on taking their services forward • As part of the Families First monitoring framework, some focus work has been |  |


| Well-being Objective 1: To improve the well-being of children and young people “All of our children and young people have the best start in life, so they can be the best they can be” | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 6: All children and young people will be helped to have a say in matters that affect them | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | undertaken with service users to obtain their views and feedback on the services they have accessed. We will continue with this approach this year and use the feedback to inform future service delivery | |


Well-being objective 2 - Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough


How this well-being objective contributes to the seven national well-being goals:



| National Goals | Contribution to each goal |
|--|--|
| A prosperous Wales | The first priority to support this objective focuses on the importance of quality employment opportunities for local people. Whether by leveraging the purchasing power and influence of the Council's direct activities, or through its place shaping role, growing local employment opportunities and supporting people into work. |
| A healthier Wales | Ensuring decent, affordable housing is another key area of focus, together with work to ensure more is done to enable people affected by domestic abuse, substance misuse or at risk of on-line criminality to protect themselves. There are particular programmes to support people with more significant health and care needs, but refocusing practice to place emphasis on promoting independence. |
| A Wales of cohesive communities | The importance of "community" is particularly emphasised in relation to the way the Council plans to meet the care and support needs of more vulnerable residents. Proposals to strengthen Local Area Co-ordination and to improve access to information about what is happening in each local area are important building blocks to bring about a wider cultural change in the way the Council proposes to work with its local residents. |
| A resilient Wales | There is a strong emphasis on sustainability across a number of the priority areas, both in the way we plan to house our population and in the way we seek to secure the long term viability of our communities through ensuring quality employment opportunities for local people. |
| A more equal Wales | There is a clear focus on work to address inequality across people of all different types of backgrounds but also a firm commitment to take a rights-based approach not just in the way the Council meets its statutory education and social services responsibilities but across all of the Council's work. |
| A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language | The priorities seek to strengthen and develop the social capital of communities to ensure sustainability and resilience. This work will also ensure that the unique cultures of each community are cultivated, including work to extend daily use of the Welsh language and the preservation of the county borough's rich heritage. |


| National Goals | Contribution to each goal |
|------------------------------|---|
| A globally responsible Wales | The county borough is producing talented people who have made a contribution on the global stage through sport, arts and culture. Procurement and regulatory activity also takes proper account of the Council's duty to act in a sustainable and responsible manner. |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough "Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically" | | |
|--|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: Local People can access sustainable, local employment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will refocus our support to businesses to help business create and sustain local employment opportunities for local people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Economic Development team continue to deal with a high volume of enquiries from existing businesses looking for support to enable them to expand and grow and individuals seeking advice and guidance on starting up a new business Despite new business start-up enquiries being just off track, the team still helped a significant number of local people consider self-employment. The most important aspect of delivery for this activity to end user is the quality of service provided, not the quantity The team also worked with many local businesses to deliver funding applications to support investment projects. This has had a positive effect on the local economy in terms of supporting new jobs creation and safeguarding existing employment and has enabled the team to deliver the planned outputs <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> The number of new business start-up enquiries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 341 |  |



| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: Local People can access sustainable, local employment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target 2017-18: 350 Actual 2017-18: 273 <p>Number of jobs created /Safeguarded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target 2017-18: 285 Actual 2017-18: 287 | |
| The Council will use the EU funding available to deliver employability programmes to assist those furthest from the labour market to obtain and sustain employment. Funding will be affected by the UK negotiations on withdrawal from the European Union | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workways - continues to provide support to unemployed people living in non-communities first areas of the county borough. The project supported 74 people over the year to gain a qualification/training, enter volunteering or overcome barriers to gain employment Communities for work - actual number of engagement starts in 2016/17 was 199 and in 2017/18 they were 276. Marketing and programme awareness increased and improved from April 2017 greatly. More participants started moving into employment and the target groups within the community that the programme is aimed at became more aware of this which improved the self-referrals into the programme. The number of starts for 2017/18 is 4% below the target for the year of 288; one of the reasons for this is during the 2017-18 contract year re-organisation of the clusters, including combining the 4 clusters into 2 bases occurred. The benefits of this re-organisation are now being seen but it did impact on engagement starts during the year <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year):</u> Number of local people in training, volunteering or employment: Workways</p> |  |

| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: Local People can access sustainable, local employment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 19 • Target 2017-18: 24 • Actual 2017-18: 74 <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> Number of local people in training, volunteering or employment: Communities for Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 199 • Target 2017-18: 288 • Actual 2017-18: 276 | |
| <p>The Council will seek to avoid compulsory redundancies to the maximum extent possible</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Voluntary Redundancy Schemes were operated, one in October 2017 (excluding school staff) and one in February 2018 (for school staff only). In the sixth month period, 11 employees left by 31st March 2018 under the first scheme and it is currently estimated that a further 38 ‘school’ employees will leave under the second scheme and by August 2018 • The Heads Of Service Workforce Planning Group has met on a regular basis to implement recruitment restrictions and to facilitate the redeployment of employees at risk of redundancy. In the period 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018, 9 employees were successfully redeployed, compared to a total of 40 employees in the year 2017/2018 <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year):</u> The number of compulsory redundancies made by the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 26 |  |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: Local People can access sustainable, local employment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 2017-18: Minimise • Actual 2017-18: 4 | |
| Supply chain opportunities for local companies will be identified within major developments within the county borough | <p>The Economic Development team lead on the delivery of community benefits on key regeneration projects to help improve the economic prospects of local people, businesses and communities such as helping people get back to work (see below), supported apprenticeships, training and upskilling of local business supply chains.</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> Number of local people helped back to work, training or volunteering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 65 • Actual 2017-18: 61 |  |
| Council procurement practices enable local businesses to bid for contracts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have system in place to ensure that our Council issued tenders and National Frameworks allow local businesses to benefit, for example, improved access to local authority tendering process, increased likelihood of participating in tendering process and benefit to the local economy • Our Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Section worked to ensure that local suppliers were able to do business with the Council via the i-Proc system(s) |  |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 2: Local people can access quality, affordable housing | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst the housing completions for 2017/18 are lower than anticipated and are falling below the annual cumulative targets set out in the LDP Monitoring Framework, a number of sites within the Policy H1 portfolio are now progressing well (e.g. Neath Road / Fairyland Road, Tonna). It is therefore expected that the rate of housing delivery will increase in the county borough over the next 5 years There is a general problem across Wales in respect of housing delivery numbers, with many factors beyond the control of Local Planning Authorities contributing to the slow delivery rates <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> <u>Number of overall units of Housing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 178 Target 2017-18: 625 Actual 2017-18: 148 (of which 33 are affordable housing units) <p><u>Housing</u> 130 new homes were originally programmed to be built by Housing Associations during 2017/18 using Welsh Government capital grant. Most of these units are still programmed to be built and development has commenced on many of the sites in question but the number of actual completions before 31/3/18 is much lower than projected. There is no current reason to believe that any of these units will not be delivered but it should be noted that Council Officers have no direct control over the development process timescales, once they have recommended their approval for grant funding by Welsh Government.</p> |  AMBER |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 2: Local people can access quality, affordable housing | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> Number of affordable housing units delivered through Social Housing Grant and intermediate care and innovation funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 102 • Target 2017-18: 130 • Actual 2017-18: 25 <p>The overall status of the Step is AMBER.</p> | |
| Working with strategic housing partners we will continue to prevent homelessness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We improved links with statutory and voluntary sector agencies to provide all relevant support enabling a tenant to remain in their property. This could be with additional tenancy related support and/or financial support. This support helps assist tenants to manage their budgets more effectively, reducing current arrears level or preventing future arrears • % of households for which homelessness was successfully prevented for the year reduced to 55.6%. We are currently seeing an increase in cases with rent arrears. Much of this is as a result of increasing numbers of universal credit claims and arrears building up due to delays in payments of Housing Element. Prior to the implementation of Universal Credit many landlords would engage with Housing Options in relation to the tenants’ arrears, working with us to reduce the likelihood of action being pursued and therefore enabling the tenant to remain in the property. As some landlords are no longer happy to take tenants on Universal Credit the likelihood of preventing homelessness in these situations is more and more unlikely, therefore contributing to the overall |  |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 2: Local people can access quality, affordable housing | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | reduction in successful prevention cases. We will be working on this over the next few months <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % of households for which homelessness was successfully prevented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 62% • Target 2017-18: Improve • Actual 2017-18: 56.6% | |
| Better use of funding made available in facilitating Disabled Facility Grants | Funding from other sources including Welsh Government's ENABLE scheme and Integrated Care Fund have been used to provide a different method of delivering small and medium sized adaptation works in a quicker way. This has diverted some demand away from the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) process but the demand is still greater than the budget by £1.5m each year. Demand for high cost, complex adaptations has increased significantly resulting in a higher average cost and less adaptations being carried out through the DFG process for the budget available |  AMBER |
| We will work to protect residents from housing conditions which may affect the health and safety of the Residents or Occupiers of neighbouring properties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service received 764 housing related service requests throughout 2017/18 • Since October 405 requests were received concerning the condition of housing, houses in multiple occupation and unsecure property. Complaints concerning illegal eviction and harassment from landlords were also investigated • Problematic landlords within NPT have been targeted in conjunction with partner agencies. These tenants living in accommodation managed by these landlords generate a large amount of complaints to the service. We are also receiving a high volume of complaints in relation to empty properties. Both |  AMBER |




| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 2: Local people can access quality, affordable housing | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | types of complaints, which together with the complexity of the process is preventing us from keeping up with demand and the expectations of complainants | |



| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will implement our local, joint Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have developed a Communications Plan to promote the Strategy A number of organisations in NPT have a workplace Domestic Abuse policy - We are aware of 14 at present and work to establish which larger organisations in NPT have an employee’s VAWDASV policy has only recently begun. Work will also commence during autumn to support more local organisations to develop and implement a policy. Starting with larger organisations, gradually working towards the smaller organisations with fewer employees Lessons on healthy relationships delivered in schools – Spectrum delivered a Healthy Relationship lesson to 1440 pupils across schools in NPT A training programme is being delivered in line with the Welsh Government National Training Framework – the year 1 target of 50% roll out for Group 1 of the Training Framework during 2016/17 has been met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Executives = 16 Social Services Health & Housing = 361 Finance & Corporate = 85 Environment = 528 Education leisure & Lifelong Learning = 1,296 Total 2,286 A review of arrangements to support people deemed to be at High risk was initiated The use of the remote evidence facility at the Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop was used 21 times in the six month period and we anticipate this increasing. <p>Work not progressed as planned include the following</p> |  AMBER |

| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perpetrator Programmes implemented in the NPT area - this work has been suspended to enable the Partnership to learn from the work being led by Welsh Government A review of accommodation support has started but is taking longer than anticipated to complete There has been a slight increase in repeat referrals <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % of incidents of domestic abuse where people are repeat victims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 35% Target 2017-18: 35% Actual 2017-18: 37.5% | |
| We will implement our PREVENT plan to ensure we identify and support those people who are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and extremism | <p>The work undertaken to help deliver our PREVENT plan has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up a PREVENT Action Group in December 2017, which will oversee the Council’s CONTEST responsibilities to ensure they are discharged in line with the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 Setting up a Chancel Panel - a multi-agency group that provides support to individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity Neath Port Talbot receive a Counter Terrorism Local Profile annually, which informs the Council and partners of the level and nature of risk and threat in the county borough Introducing a venue hire policy to ensure Council meeting rooms and accommodation are not let out to individuals and groups who may use them for an unsuitable purpose |  |

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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up a PREVENT webpage (currently in progress) to communicate the importance of the new duty placed on the Council which requires us to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and extremism | |
| We will develop, with our local community safety partners, targeted crime prevention campaigns, based on evidence to keep communities safe, in particular to address the growing threat of cyber-crime and the need to improve on-line safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We delivered seven Community Safety campaigns in this period which included: Operation Be A Nice Guy (BANG), Cybercrime and online safety, Domestic Abuse White Ribbon Campaign There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour levels in one hot spot area in the borough. To address this issue a partnership action plan is now in place There has been no change in the levels of anti-social behaviour repeat victims, which remains low <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 1,977 Target 2017-18: Reduce Actual 2017-18: 2,185 <p>Maintain low levels of Anti-Social Behaviour repeat victims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 5 Target 2017-18: 5 Actual 2017-18: 5 |  |


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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will work with our partners to implement our Road Safety Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues with our partners to ensure that our Road Safety Strategy is implemented • We provided education and training to identified vulnerable road users which included motorcyclists, cyclists and older drivers • We collaborated and shared good practice with Road Safety teams across Wales, Road Safety Wales, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), Fire and Rescue Service and South Wales Police • Our dedicated driver trainer within our team provides professional driver training and licence acquisition for Council staff and external companies and local businesses <p>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator: All road traffic casualties – all age groups Average figures for 2004–2008: 595 Target: Reduce by 40% by 2020 2017/2018 Casualty Data is unavailable. Report from Welsh Government states the following: <i>“Postponement of police recorded accidents 2017 – this report which was due to be published by the Welsh Government on 13th June 2018 has been postponed because of a data quality issue”.</i></p> <p>Previously reported data between April 2016 and December 2016 has been analysed and compared against baseline data 2004-2008 average. These figures show us to be on target</p> |  GREEN |


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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will work with our partners to ensure those with the most complex needs are safeguarded, strengthening our vulnerable adults safeguarding arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have started working in closer alignment with Adult Social Care and are looking to streamline processes to ensure that there is one clear referral process into the service Thorough scrutiny of DoLS (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) and reviews were carried out to ensure quality and timeliness of assessments Thorough scrutiny of adult practice reviews ensured that recommendations are implemented and safeguarding was embedded into practice |  GREEN |
| We will ensure that food premises are inspected to ensure that the food provided is fit for human consumption and the premises from which it is sold are hygienic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A rolling programme of food hygiene interventions is planned annually, based on risk prioritisation. All interventions due were achieved by the conclusion of the period. This included 174 inspections at higher risk premises (categories A-C), and 187 interventions at lower risk premises (categories D-E) - these were mainly via self-assessment questionnaires All complaints against food premises received have been resolved. This included 21 complaints regarding food issues, and 37 complaints regarding hygiene issues |  GREEN |
| We will support local business to help them provide safe and healthy working environments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service received 101 requests for food business advice and 17 for health and safety advice, including advice on the Public Health (Wales) special procedures legislation and a national initiative to provide advice to public houses on cellar safety Additionally, a new scheme is being established for 2018/19 to offer consultancy style advice on a charged-for basis, whilst retaining a baseline element of enquiry advice and signposting of resources |  GREEN |


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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| The department will investigate significant breaches of consumer fraud, product safety and age restricted sales detected proactively or reactively. Working with partners and protecting the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As well as responding to consumer complaints, the department has a proactive programme of monitoring online and high street businesses for breaches. The department has also shifted resources to deal with the growth in the number of illicit traders using social media as a means of distribution The department has undertaken exercises in partnership with the Police for underage sales of knives and rogue traders and the Community Safety team in respect of scams and cybercrime The department detected or were notified of 28 significant breaches, of which 7 so far have been rectified, the remaining are subject to ongoing investigations |  |
| We will work within the Area Planning Board (APB) Partnership to implement the Commissioning Strategy for Substance Misuse Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a consequence of Welsh Government putting forward proposals for a change in the health board boundary, the APB determined that it would suspend its commissioning proposals. It was further decided that work should be undertaken to review existing contracts and amend as necessary. Now that the health board boundary change has been announced, the APB will begin work on a new commissioning cycle for services in NPT and Swansea. Services as currently commissioned continue to be provided and monitored accordingly The APB is currently undertaking a governance review, which could see changes in the governance structure, including how decisions are made. At a development event in February 2018, the APB determined its three priorities to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing drug related deaths Dual diagnosis Preparing for the Implementation of Minimum Unit Pricing for Alcohol |  |



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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>Work is underway in respect of these priorities and will be reported in 18/19</p> <p>In relation to the Key Performance Indicators below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A higher percentage of people are starting treatment from referral within 20 days and a higher percentage of cases of substance misuse is reduced, remains unchanged or there is abstinence usage • In relation to cases closed performance, the recording of the cases closed and how this is calculated still needs to be addressed by the Welsh Government; the Western Bay data manager is taking the lead regarding these discussions. Although there has been an increase in the figures locally, when calculated as a percentage of overall caseload, these are in alignment with the rest of Wales • Work continues to review the substance misuse single assessment service in relation to its effectiveness as a front door into services will be concluded during 2018/19 as the access into services <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>% of individuals starting treatment from referral within a 20 day period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 93.98% • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 95.4% (APB Area) - 96.6% (NPT) <p>Substance misuse is reduced, remains unchanged or abstinence usage in TOPS (Treatment Outcome Profiles)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 68.26% | |

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| Improvement Priority 3: People are safe and feel safe | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 84.1% (APB Area) - 90.5% (NPT) <p>% of cases closed (with a treatment date) as treatment complete (how many people complete their treatment successfully)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 50.66% • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 49.1% (APB Area) - 45.7% (NPT) | |



| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 4: People unable to work can maximise their income | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| People will be supported to receive the UK Government benefits they are entitled to | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have provided support across the borough for online applications, claims for Housing Benefit, DHPs (Discretionary Housing Benefits) and DWP benefits (especially universal credit) We have worked with partners including voluntary sector to provide support and financial advice to claimants The Welfare Rights service supported 1,663 people to access and maximise their benefit entitlement. This has been the 2nd highest amount ever secured for claimants. Social workers have been made aware of all of the services the Welfare Rights team can provide to help the families they are involved with. The service has started up 4 new advice surgeries which have already proved to be a great success <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Percentage of correctly granted benefit against total granted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 99.94% Target 2017-18: 100% Actual 2017-18: 100% <p>Average days taken for new claims and changes of circumstances – application to assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 5.4 days Target 2017-18: Maintain Actual 2017-18: 4.3 days |  |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 4: People unable to work can maximise their income | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | Benefits £'s secured for clients by the Council's Welfare Rights Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: £9.121 million Target 2017-18: Maintain Actual 2017-18: £8.316 million | |
| We will implement the Welsh Government's Scheme to relieve the Council Tax burden on those with the lowest income | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have promoted availability of the scheme on the Council's website and in the media We have updated the Council Tax Support Scheme in line with Welsh Government Policy Provided support across the borough for online applications for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme There was a reduction in the number of claimants during the year, however we saw an increase in the value of financial support given <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Number of claimants of Council Tax Reduction Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 17,918 Target 2017-18: Maintain subject to WG funding Actual 2017-18: 17,463 <p>Value of financial support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: £16.86 million Target 2017-18: Maintain subject to WG funding Actual 2017-18: £16.97 million |  |

| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: People who need care and support will be able to access support from within their community and if their needs can only be met by social services they will receive services which are personalised | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will promote the Community Services Directory to enable more people to engage with and access support and services within their local communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continued to compile and input data into the Community Directory • We have migrated the Community Directory to the All Wales DEWIS System and this work was completed in July 2018 • There has been an increase in the number of hits to the Community Services Directory website and the number of service/organisation information <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Number of hits on the Community Services Directory website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 42,810 • Target 2017-18: to increase • Actual 2017-18: 47,473 <p>Number of Services/organisations on the community directory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 916 • Target 2017-18: to increase • Actual 2017-18: 1,054 |  |

| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: People who need care and support will be able to access support from within their community and if their needs can only be met by social services they will receive services which are personalised | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| Where people’s needs can only be met with social services involvement, where appropriate people will be offered a Direct Payment | <p>When this Plan was published our aim was to increase the number of people accessing direct payments to 40%. During the year we changed our focus and are no longer setting any targets to increase the number of direct payments within the borough. We are now focusing on profiling the following: current agencies used, type of support delivered, opportunities for shared support, CHC (Community Health Care) cases. This information will help develop a more conclusive plan across the Direct Payment Service</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % of people accessing direct payments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 16% (360 people As at July 2017) • Target 2017-18: 40% • Actual 2017-18: 15% (415 of 2,726 receiving a service as at 31.3.2018) |  GREEN |
| Where people are unable to meet their needs through a Direct Payment, most people will be helped to live as independently as possible for as long as possible in a community setting through services we commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We created a Multi-Disciplinary Team, with the aim of delivering a more robust screening process at referral stage, ensuring that the needs of each individual are taken into account and effectively met, whether it be by Social Services or signposted to alternative community based services who can best meet their requirements • As a result of this process there has been an overall reduction in the number of people who require a formal care and support plan from our service and an increase in those diverted to alternative third sector organisations. This is a positive result in terms of older people becoming more empowered and involved in the choice of support they receive to enable them to live a more |  GREEN |

| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 5: People who need care and support will be able to access support from within their community and if their needs can only be met by social services they will receive services which are personalised | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>independent life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also created a new team, where social work staff are working closely with hospital staff to pro-actively ensure people who require social care support on discharge are dealt with in a more timely way. The rate of people aged 75 plus kept in hospital for social care reasons has reduced <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u></p> <p>Rate of older people (aged 65 and over) supported in the community per 1,000 population aged 65 or over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 90.5 Target 2017-18: Reduce Actual 2017-18: 62.74* <p>*The 17/18 figure has been calculated using the number of service user’s with a care plan that are supported in the community. Previous totals would have included people in receipt of services that did not require a care and support plan; however we no longer measure in this way.</p> <p>Rate of people kept in hospital while waiting for social care per 1,000 population aged 75+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 3.88 Target 2017-18: Reduce Actual 2017-18: 3.08 | |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
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| Improvement Priority 6: People will be able to have their say in matters that affect them and where people need help to voice their opinions, advocacy support will be available | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will implement the Regional Joint Carers’ Strategy with our health partners | <p>This work has been delayed due to Welsh Government guidance not being published in the timeframe. A Local Authority Delivery Plan for Adult Carers is being produced with the aim go live for October 2018</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of carers’ assessment completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 355 • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 282 |  AMBER |
| We will implement the Welsh Government’s Autism Strategy | <p>An ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) Group was developed and is made up of professionals and parents/carers. The Group met regularly to devise a working plan in order to improve the lives of people with autism and their families and carers. The plan’s focus is to raise awareness of autism in county borough. We held an Autism awareness day in Aberavon shopping centre in April 2018 and are setting up a participation day in relation to ‘what matters’ conversations that will take place later this year with people with Autism, their families and carers. The group has also been integral in feeding into the Integrated Autism Service (IAS) operational group who are responsible for setting up the Western Bay IAS service</p> |  GREEN |


| Well-being Objective 2: Improve the Well-being of all adults who live in the county borough “Everyone participates fully in community life – socially and economically” | | |
|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 6: People will be able to have their say in matters that affect them and where people need help to voice their opinions, advocacy support will be available | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will embed a rights-based approach for older people and disabled people across the Council and ensure that people have access to advocacy support where that is required | We commission advocacy services for individuals to support and represent the views of older persons living in the county borough with the intention of influencing change. Access to an advocacy service is available to give a voice to individuals to ensure their views and wishes are fully taken into account in the individual planning process and with any decisions being made by professionals about them |  |


Well-being objective 3 - To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved


How this well-being objective contributes to the seven national well-being goals:

| National Goals | Contribution to each goal |
|--|---|
| A prosperous Wales | We have described a range of proposed steps to create sustainable, quality employment by working both locally and regionally. A number of the proposed City Deal projects focus on low carbon technologies and creating capability to exploit the potential of digital technologies. |
| A healthier Wales | The priorities demonstrate a sound understanding of the determinants of well-being and the powers available to the Council to impact upon those determinants. |
| A Wales of cohesive communities | The priorities set out in this section, underpin the objectives for children and young people and adults in a range of ways – through ensuring connectivity, the availability of local employment, good housing and recreation opportunities, the protection of the environment and ensuring the county borough is attractive to investors. |
| A resilient Wales | Important sections of our Local Development Plan are referenced which have been subject to full sustainability appraisals and show how those policies will underpin the Council's objectives to improve the social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being of its residents. |
| A more equal Wales | The activities reported show how we are creating greater opportunity for all people to get on in life, starting with the opportunity to obtain quality employment and then affordable housing in attractive, safe and clean places where people can bring up their families. |
| A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language | The importance of local heritage sites and the part these have to play in sustaining culture feature amongst the priorities as does the regeneration of valley communities. Working with communities features prominently as a theme in this section as in the preceding sections. |
| A globally responsible Wales | Priorities include reducing waste generated and increasing recycling, as well as taking a range of steps to protect and develop the county borough's natural assets. The growing importance of digital and new energy technologies are also incorporated into the work proposed. |



| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: We will create an environment where new businesses can establish themselves and existing businesses can grow | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will work with our regional partners to deliver the City Deal and lead on those projects that impact directly on the county borough subject to appropriate governance structures being agreed and affordability / risk criteria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes as Power Stations (HAPS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finalising the 5 case model business plan ○ Registered Social Landlord engagement events held ○ Regional Local Authority engagement on-going • Swansea Bay Technology Centre: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secured £3 million European funding to match fund the £3 million City Deal funding ○ Preparing the 5 case model business plan • Centre of Excellence for Next Generation Services (CENGs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preparing information to include in the 5 case model business plan ○ Working to get project back on track <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator:</u> The Council will deliver the agreed business cases that support projects identified for the county borough within the City Deal and will update the Plan once those business cases are approved – see above narrative</p> |  GREEN |


| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: We will create an environment where new businesses can establish themselves and existing businesses can grow | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will deliver the agreed Local Economic Development and Regeneration Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economic Development team continue to focus on growing local businesses by supporting their investment plans which are crucial to attracting private sector investment, creating new jobs and safeguarding existing employment within the county borough • There is also a focus on making our town centres more viable, developing potential sites to encourage high quality inward investment and economic growth and supporting our valley communities to help them become more sustainable • All planned activities were delivered, for example, 16 expansion schemes for local businesses and 7 inward investments projects with the potential to create and/or safeguard up to 200 jobs to support economic growth were successfully delivered in the six month period • In addition, the team continues to work closely with the Port Talbot Waterfront Enterprise Zone Board with the aim of attracting new investment and jobs to the area, supporting local businesses to diversify and enter new markets and further promote economic growth. This is particularly relevant to those local businesses within the Tata supply chain • The Regeneration Team continue to deliver the remaining projects under Vibrant and Viable Places and are developing further regeneration proposals under the Welsh Government Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI), Building for the Future and Valleys Task Force Programmes. A Commercial Property Grant scheme continues to be operated throughout the county borough. On track to deliver planned activities in the six month period |  |


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|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 1: We will create an environment where new businesses can establish themselves and existing businesses can grow | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will establish a local valleys Taskforce, led by elected members, and involving communities and local partners, to complement the Welsh Government’s objective to regenerate valley communities | The task and finish group formally submitted their conclusions and recommendations to the Cabinet in June 2018. It is expected that the Cabinet will formally respond to the recommendations in autumn 2018 |  |



| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 2: We will work with communities to increase reuse, recycling and composting | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will review and refine our waste management strategy in the context of delivering against statutory targets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-Member seminars have been held in November 2017 and May 2018 to consider issues with a view to agreeing actions to ensure continued progress with successfully meeting the statutory recycling targets. A series of proposals as a result of those seminars was reported to Street Scene and Engineering Cabinet Board on 20th July 2018. The proposals are primarily aimed at increasing the Council's recycling performance to help ensure the Council continues to meet the increasing statutory targets. The proposals were approved by the Cabinet Board • Having achieved the current statutory recycling and composting target of 58%, the Council is now reviewing its waste strategy to ensure we can meet the 2019/20 target of 64%, and the 2024/25 target of 70% • Overall performance has dropped slightly this year which is a trend expected to be seen across Wales. National issues affecting performance have included a reclassification of wood waste by Natural Resources Wales, whilst local issues have included some reduction in green waste composting and an overall increase of 2,000 tonnes in the total amount of waste with, in particular, an increase in the amount of non-recyclable waste presented at our Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). Whilst the overall recycling percentage has dropped, the performance of the kerbside recycling service continues to increase. Furthermore, Welsh Government grant funding has been secured to assist with the final roll-out of the kerbside service to farms and lanes this year, and also for new vehicles and receptacles so we can enhance arrangements offered to commercial customers and residents in flats. In addition, there is grant funding to extend the “re-use shop” at the Briton Ferry HWRC |  |

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|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 2: We will work with communities to increase reuse, recycling and composting | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> % local authority collected municipal waste prepared for reuse, recycling and composting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 62.77% • Target 2017-18: 64% by 2020 • Actual 2017-18: 60.65% | |



| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 3: Local people and visitors can access good quality leisure facilities, country parks and theatres | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will encourage and help to promote local cultural events and traditions and also encourage local communities to participate in national events and traditions | <p>The Regeneration and Economic Development team delivered all planned activities in the six month period including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organising the Neath Food and Drink Festival, which attracted more than 56,000 visitors to Neath Town Centre over the three days of the festival Working in partnership with the Neath Town Centre Consortium to deliver and promote the Real Ale and Cider Festival and the Great Guitar Gig |  |
| We will develop the service models that support our leisure services, theatres and parks so that new income streams support their operation and they are less dependent on subsidy from the Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Margam Park - In November a new business plan for Margam Country Park was approved by Members, which seeks to explore commercial opportunities to generate income that will contribute towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Country Park. Number of visitors to Margam Park has increased by 10.4% (244,901 visitors in 2016-17 compared to 270,272 visitors in 2017-18) Gnoll Park - Completed projects which seek to create a greater visitor experience and increase income include installation of free Wi-Fi and large screens, a revised café menu and the new all-inclusive park at the Gnoll Country Park (Rhianna's swing) Going forward we have plans to make improvements to outdoor seating area with a covered canopy, reduce service utility costs with solar panels on the canopy and we will continue to review the Café to achieve a more efficient service to visitors and place the facility in a more viable position |  |



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|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 3: Local people and visitors can access good quality leisure facilities, country parks and theatres | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Visitor numbers 2017-18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margam Park: 270,272 • Gnoll Park: the visitor centre had just below 150,000 visitors (visitor counters are only on the visitor centre doors so this data would not be a true reflection on overall visitor numbers to the park) | |
| We will develop the offer of our theatres to attract a wide range of acts and performances | <p>Pontardawe Arts Centre – We delivered the regular annual programme of activities and events, which attracted a broad cross section of the population of the county borough and achieved our user figure targets. We have started work to move the Centre onto a more sustainable footing, in particular to reduce reliance on ongoing subsidy</p> <p>Princess Royal Theatre - The Princess Royal Theatre continues to provide high quality productions and events. The Theatre continues to attract high quality artists and has continued to deliver an ever improving service in a more commercial cost effective way</p> <p>The Gwyn Hall - The Gwyn Hall has met all outcome targets set by the Celtic Leisure Board and there has been an increase in professional shows held during the year. The catering establishment “The Place” is now an established venue in the town centre with a much improved reputation. The increase in professional shows and amateur shows is having an increase on spend in the Café and Bar</p> |  |

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|---|---|--|
| Improvement Priority 3: Local people and visitors can access good quality leisure facilities, country parks and theatres | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Visitor numbers 2017-18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pontardawe Arts Theatre: 58,052 Princess Royal Theatre: 54,242 Gwyn Hall: 137,367 Overall visits to our theatres increased by 16.2% (from 214,903 in 2016-17 to 249,661 in 2017-18) | |
| We will use creative and innovative techniques to promote use and enjoyment of our natural environment, encouraging people to make use of local footpaths, cycleways and bridleways and parks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revised Existing Route Map (ERM) and Integrated Network Map (INM) were submitted to the Welsh Government (WG) in November 2017, with the Council receiving Ministerial approval of both maps on 27th February 2018. The maps identify areas where improvements can be made to the network INM implementation now commencing – successful bid for £235,000 WG grant received early April’18 for ‘pre-work’ activities including feasibility studies / route option development Continuation of maintaining the Public Rights of Way network where possible – this is now proving much more difficult given the WG RoWIP (Rights of Way Improvement Plan) Grant has ended A draft timetable and outline for the review of the RoWIP has been prepared An assessment is currently underway to primarily determine the extent to which rights of way meet the present and future needs of the public; and the present condition of the rights of way network |  |

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|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 3: Local people and visitors can access good quality leisure facilities, country parks and theatres | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will identify inward investment opportunities for both the private and public sector in order to expand and improve upon the existing attractions and leisure offer | <p>The Economic Development Team delivered all planned activities in the six month period including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the Sgwd Gwladys Lodge development in the former Waterfalls Centre in Pontneddfechan, which now offers high quality accommodation and café/bistro facilities Delivering the Pontneddfechan verge parking scheme which has created additional parking provision at Waterfall Country, alleviating the significant parking pressures at this location and the negative impact on both residents and visitors. Funding for this scheme was received from Visit Wales’ Tourism Amenity Infrastructure Scheme (£82,785) Securing funding via Visit Wales’ Tourism Amenity Infrastructure Scheme (£128,000) for the Margam Country Park all weather car parking scheme which will enable the park to cater for year round events |  |
| We will work with partners to refurbish, repair and maintain locally important buildings and structures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regeneration Team and Strategic Funding Team are developing proposals for key town centre listed buildings Secured in principle European and Welsh Government Building for the Future funding for The Plaza in Port Talbot Secured in principle European and Welsh Government Building for the Future funding for Port Talbot Magistrates Court Submitted business plan to apply for European and Welsh Government Building for the Future funding for 8 Wind Street in Neath town centre. We await the outcome of this application, hence the amber status of this step |  |



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|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 3: Local people and visitors can access good quality leisure facilities, country parks and theatres | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration work has also been undertaken at the Turbine House in Margam Park and a scheme for the refurbishment of several War Memorials is being developed | |


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|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 4: We will strive to protect our natural environment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| Address with partners the agreed priorities set out within the Flood Risk Management Plan within available resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Flood Risk Management Plan identifies seven specific measures that can be implemented across the county borough. A list of those measures with a brief update on the work that has been undertaken to date, was reported to: Streetscene and Engineering Cabinet Board on 25th May 2018 We were proactive in cleaning 100% of high priority culverts especially before inclement weather arrived, which helped to reduce the risk of flooding in these areas <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> % of high priority culverts cleaned especially before inclement weather arrives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 100% Target 2017-18: 100% Actual 2017-18: 100% |  |
| Work with stakeholders to prepare, publish, implement and keep under review a Biodiversity Duty Plan. | <p>We worked with our stakeholders to prepare a Biodiversity Duty Plan and this was published in December 2017. The Plan outlines actions already being undertaken by the Council and further actions that will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the Duty Plan. We have started implementation of the Duty Plan, with an initial focus on risk assessment of service areas and agreeing a methodology for an audit of Council owned land. The purpose of the plan is to identify how the council will seek to meet the biodiversity duty in order to protect and enhance biodiversity in the borough. For example, where new developments come forward the aim is to achieve no net loss in biodiversity e.g. if there is a loss of habitat as a result of a development we would create one elsewhere in the borough as close as possible to the original site.</p> |  |


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|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 4: We will strive to protect our natural environment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will engage our local communities and wider partners to deliver a programme of activities that will engage and support local people to participate in our natural environment | <p>We continued with our programme of well-being and conservation activities to raise the profile of the natural environment and its wider benefits, our ‘Working with Nature’ Project engages with local communities raising awareness and encouraging interaction with local wild spaces such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Free events including willow-weaving workshops, green woodworking sessions, wildlife watching and bush craft events ○ Volunteering days regularly held offering the chance for communities to learn and participate in habitat management |  |
| We will use our statutory powers to challenge unacceptable levels of pollution | <p>Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have used our statutory powers to declare an AQMA (Air Quality Management Area) and to prepare an AQMA Action Plan. Beyond that we regulate Civil and Marine Slag Cement, which is within the curtilage of the steelworks site. We are working towards improving air quality in Port Talbot to secure removal of the declared AQMA in this area. • We have completed and submitted to the Welsh Government the Annual Air Quality Report for the county borough. The report identifies that there has been a steady reduction in all levels of pollutants within the county borough <p>Contaminated land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 contaminated land sites were completed in the financial year. This does not reflect a huge majority of the work that is done on a day to day basis, for example, initial planning consultations, reviewing site investigations and remediation strategies. We have taken “brought back into beneficial use” to mean sites that |  |

| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 4: We will strive to protect our natural environment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p>are completed and occupied. Following the cessation of grant funding to local authorities to take direct action to treat contaminated land we are reliant upon remediation through the planning process. This figure will therefore fluctuate on an annual basis depending on the number and size of development proposals submitted for brownfield/contaminated land</p> <p>Water Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the six month period, four water supplies were sampled, resulting in 2 initial failures. Now all four are in compliance, and currently meet the drinking water requirements. We were unable to undertake risk assessments due to conflicting priorities <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> PM 10 air quality levels within the designated Air Quality Management Area in Port Talbot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 8 exceedances Target 2017-18: Reduce by 2022 Actual 2017-18: 17 <p>Areas of land which are potentially contaminated brought back into beneficial Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 27 hectares Actual 2017-18: 28.056 hectares (cumulative data from 1st April 2017 – baseline) | |




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|---|--|------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 4: We will strive to protect our natural environment | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | Quality of water in private supplies - % of Private Water Supplies operating in accordance with drinking water requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 90% • Target 2017-18: Improve over the period (2022) • Actual 2017-18: 100% (six months data) | |

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|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 5: Working with our partners, we will ensure there are good communication links and connectivity across the county borough and wider City Region | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will enhance digital connectivity through our involvement in the City Deal | The work for this step is still ongoing. We attended City Deal digital infrastructure and test beds working group meetings. A business case will be developed for the region to identify how to improve digital connectivity including 5G across the region, with a view to establishing the region as a living test bed. |  AMBER |
| We will help promote the Welsh Government’s Superfast Broadband Cymru Programme | <p>98% of properties, including business premises are served by Broadband speeds at or in excess of 30 Mbs. Take up of these services is currently running at 45% which is the Welsh average and work continues to try and understand where the service has been taken up and where it hasn’t. We continue to work with the low take up communities to increase take up and access to superfast broadband services.</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicator (full year data):</u> No of “white spots” (digital connectivity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 2017-18: Improve over the period (2022) • Actual 2017-18: 2% of NPT properties <p>Investigations will take place to determine where the areas of no service (known as White Spots) exist within NPT and how we can work with Welsh Government and suppliers to address the shortfall</p> |  GREEN |



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|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 5: Working with our partners, we will ensure there are good communication links and connectivity across the county borough and wider City Region | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| <p>We will endeavour to maintain and expand the current transport network and explore alternative transport solutions where conventional transport services are no longer sustainable</p> | <p>The beginning of the year saw the opening of the Transport Hub at Port Talbot railway station. This has improved connectivity between rail and bus travel. The upgrading of bus shelters has now been completed on all strategic bus corridors. Neath Bus station has seen improvements with further on-going improvements scheduled for later in the year.</p> <p>As the private sector continues to face financial pressures, NPT has seen commercial bus operators’ review services far more robustly than they have in previous years. Inevitably if patronage on a route falls, the route then becomes unsustainable and is reduced or withdrawn. This became evident in April when services were reduced in the Afan Valley, Briton Ferry and Glynneath areas. This is a national trend and not unique to NPT.</p> <p>Figures for Concessionary fare travel in NPT has shown a reduction of 14% over the last five years. Historical figures for fare paying passenger are not available.</p> <p>Community Transport has seen slight reduction in passenger numbers, this was because of this winter’s adverse weather and people no longer requiring the service.</p> <p>NPT officers have been working with Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) to deliver their innovative transport strategy.</p> |  |

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|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 5: Working with our partners, we will ensure there are good communication links and connectivity across the county borough and wider City Region | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> No of users of public and community transport</p> <p>Community Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 19,859 • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 19509 <p>Concessionary Fares</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 1,908,362 • Target 2017-18: Increase • Actual 2017-18: 1,764,908 <p>Fare Paying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual 2016-17: 2,953,341 • Actual 2017-18: Awaiting fare paying figures from the commercial bus operators | |
| <p>We will prepare, publish and keep up to date an Existing Route Map (ERM) and Integrated Network Map (INM) and also work with partners to develop and promote active travel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since receiving Ministerial approval of the first ERM on 12th August 2016, the ERM has been kept under review • The review identified a limited number of additional routes which were consulted upon in parallel with the preparation of the INM • Both the revised ERM and INM were subsequently submitted to the Welsh Government (WG) in November 2017, with the Council receiving Ministerial |  |


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|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Improvement Priority 5: Working with our partners, we will ensure there are good communication links and connectivity across the county borough and wider City Region | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | approval of both maps on 27 th February 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> INM implementation now commencing – successful bid for £235,000 WG grant received early April’18 for ‘pre-work’ activities including feasibility studies / route option development | |

| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|---|--|
| Improvement Priority 6: We will work with our Public Services Board and others to explore how we can facilitate access to important local public services, using new and innovative approaches | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will continue to work with partners to identify new opportunities for shared use of public buildings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further viable opportunities to share space have emerged, however co-location with Health continues in a number of buildings to facilitate closer working relationships In addition the new Regional National Assets Working Group, sub groups will be used as a vehicle to embark on a refreshed engagement with the whole public sector as the new regional groups develop. This will identify new opportunities for shared use of public buildings |  GREEN |
| We will support third sector and community groups to sustain community access to facilities that they operate | <p>Four council owned assets were leased to voluntary/community groups and organisations during this period with negotiations ongoing in respect of a number of other assets.</p> <p>The four leased were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tea room building within Talbot Memorial Park Land at Gnoll Country Park for a play area Cwrt Herbert Playing Field Neath Abbey Pontardawe Heritage and Visitors Centre |  GREEN |
| <p>We will bring forward proposals as to how we can support the third sector to enable more people to access on-line services</p> <p>This work supports Objective 6 : Tackling digital exclusion contained within the NPT Public Service Board’s Well-being Plan 2018 – 2023</p> | We undertook a Third Sector Digital Survey, which closed in October 2017. Results have been analysed and identified an additional resource was required. A new officer was appointed during July 2018 to move this work forward. |  GREEN |

| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|---|--|
| Improvement Priority 6: We will work with our Public Services Board and others to explore how we can facilitate access to important local public services, using new and innovative approaches | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will encourage the development of social and public enterprise in its diverse forms | <p>Support for social enterprises is available at request. We continue to provide support to community organisations / third sector, as and when needed. This includes support with resource such as advice on business plans, funding advice and attending meetings. We no longer have targets for social enterprise support in this organisation</p> <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of social and public enterprises established</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2017-18: N/a |  <p>GREEN</p> |

| Well-being Objective 3: To develop the local economy and environment so that the well-being of people can be improved “Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe will be a vibrant and healthy place to live, work and enjoy recreational time” | | |
|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 7: We will support tourism businesses | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| We will work with businesses and wider partners to support them to develop their visitor attractions and we will support those who wish to create new attractions in the county borough | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tourism Development in Neath Port Talbot project (funded by the Regional Development Plan) continues to operate in the rural wards and is on track to deliver planned activities in the six month period. In addition, the Economic Development team provided assistance for tourism operators from non-rural wards. Overall the Council supported more tourism operators (26) <p><u>Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators (full year data):</u> Number of tourism operators supported by the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual 2016-17: 15 (RDP) Target 2017-18: 20 Actual 2017-18: 26 |  |
| We will lead the delivery of the Neath Port Talbot Destination Management Plan | The delivery of the Neath Port Talbot Destination Management Plan continued with a number of actions completed and is in progress of completion. Work undertaken during the period include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterfalls at Pontneddfechan – regular meetings are held with Brecon Beacons National Park Association and relevant stakeholders to identify opportunities to improve facilities for visitors at Pontneddfechan. The former Waterfalls Information Centre has been let to a new business start-up now providing accommodation and café/bistro services to visitors Signpost new and existing businesses to potential funding sources and business planning advice – support and advice has been provided to businesses across the county borough with new developments in Glyncorrwg and Pontneddfechan and expansion of existing businesses in Margam and Glyncorrwg. |  |

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|---|--|---|
| Improvement Priority 7: We will support tourism businesses | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a copyright free image bank for use by NPT trade – a bank of images has been developed across all five valleys and for Aberavon seafront which can be used by local businesses to promote Neath Port Talbot as a place to visit and stay • Aberavon Seafront – a stakeholder task and finish group meets regularly to improve communication and jointly identify projects for development • Delivered targeted training/networking for tourism businesses – two Sense of Place events held to develop product knowledge of the tourism sector | |
| We will seek funds to deliver tourism related initiatives in the area | The delivery of the Tourism Development in Neath Port Talbot project continues to be on track to deliver planned work such supporting businesses, promotion and setting up task and finish groups to improve visitor experience in key tourist destination within the valleys such signage, car parking and encouraging business development. In addition to this, funding was also secured via the Visit Wales Tourism Amenity Investment Scheme to deliver the Pontneddfechan Verge Parking Scheme and the Margam Country Park all weather parking scheme. The Margam scheme will be delivered in 2018-19 |  |

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|---|---|---|
| Improvement Priority 8: We will ensure that the Local Development Plan delivers upon its vision, objectives and strategy and work collaboratively with neighbouring authorities to deliver regional policies and initiatives | | |
| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| Work with colleagues, stakeholders, partner organisations and members of the public to deliver the strategy | <p>As it is not possible to specify progress over the 6 month period, a brief summary of broader progress is provided below - for full detail refer to published LDP Monitoring Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Activity – the economic activity rate in Neath Port Talbot has increased at a higher rate than the Welsh and UK average. The unemployment rate is also falling, indicating a positive economic picture for the area and showing that the aims of the Local Development Plan (LDP) are being met • Coed Darcy / Harbourside – development of these two sites will generate the largest mixed use developments within the county borough. Coed Darcy is currently the subject of intense negotiations to secure the complementary infrastructure required to support the development including schools and highway improvements. Harbourside has been the subject of a strategic Flood Consequences Assessment, which also includes mitigation to address flooding concerns; this together with the need to remediate contamination is slowing down its delivery. Both of these sites remain to be a primary focus for regeneration in line with the LDP strategy • Delivery of Key Projects/Infrastructure – examples include Swansea University Bay Campus; Neath Town Centre; Glanafan School; Port Talbot Integrated Transport Hub; Harbour Way (PDR) • Natural and Built Environment – LDP policy implementation continuing to |  |

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|---|--|------------------------|
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| Steps | Steps Progress (1 st October 2017 to 31 st March 2018) | STEPS RAG STATUS |
| | conserve the countryside, landscapes, undeveloped coast, biodiversity, historic heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration Initiatives – continuation of contribution to the regional planning agenda. Future work programme developed for specific joint studies | |

Have your say on what matters to you

We welcome feedback on the information contained within this Report via:

Email: improvement@npt.gov.uk or post: Chief Executive, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Port Talbot, SA13 1PJ

We also have a number of consultation/engagement events about various services which we promote in the press and on the website which you can access via the following link: <http://www.npt.gov.uk/haveyoursay>

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