

# Appendix 1 Overview of the consultation comments received together with officer responses and recommendations in relation thereto.

## 1. Online Questionnaire

### Overview

- 1.1 This Appendix provides an officer summary of the responses received to the online questionnaire (Section 1), together with the content of a letter received from the Chair of the CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee (Section 2) and Swansea Bay University Health Board (Section 3).
- 1.2 Along with a summary, an officer response is provided together with any recommended amendments to the Corporate Plan and/or the Integrated Impact Assessment.
- 1.3 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with appendices 2-4 of this report. It is noted that Appendix 4 sets out the full responses received from the online consultation, together with other background information.

### The Draft Vision

*How far do you agree that our Draft Vision clearly sets out the way we want South West Wales to look in 2035?*

- 1.4 **Answers:** Strongly agree (25%), Agree (55.55%), Disagree (2.78%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (16.67%).

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards to our Draft Vision.*

- 1.5 **Officer response:** Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for the Draft Vision. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

#### 1.5.1 Rural /Urban Context:

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that the Vision would benefit from an increased recognition of the contribution of rural communities and the challenges they face. The importance of the agricultural sector was raised in comments submitted to other sections of the Plan (notably from a food resilience and biodiversity perspective - see paragraph 1.11.2 of this appendix). It is claimed that that the Vision needs an explicit reference to a strong city economy, which drives the region enterprising culture sustainable transport options connecting communities and job opportunities.

**Officer response:** Whilst it is noted that the Vision already refers to “*..vibrant rural places with access to homes, jobs and services,..*” it is accepted that explicit reference to sustainable agriculture in the Vision would be beneficial.

The Vision should be overly prescriptive in regards spatial considerations, particularly when noting the rural-urban patchwork that characterises our region. It will be for the specific Plans, Policies and Programmes of the CJC (notably the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and Regional Transport Plan

(RTP) ) to consider such matters of detail and indeed communicate the current and future role and function of the region's settlement framework and linkages.

#### 1.5.2 Focus and Detail:

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that the Vision lacks focus and is "woolly". It is also claimed that there needs to be a clear focus on improving the efficiency of the existing housing stock to get near achieving carbon neutrality.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that the Vision, when supported by a shorter term aim, reflects the wider policy and legal parameters as they apply to the CJC without being overly prescriptive in this regard. Also, the Vision is written in a way where it seeks to transport the reader to 'South West Wales 2035'. Further detail on how key elements will be achieved (including net zero and carbon neutrality) will be for the specific workstreams and policies. Specific reference may be made to the policy review section as set out in Section 2 of the Corporate Plan - together with the well-being objectives themselves. Whilst not a direct response to these comments on the Vision, reference may be made to Table 2 in Appendix 2 of this report, where officer updates are suggested to the Corporate Plan's appendices with a view to sharpening up the action planning aspects.

#### 1.5.3 The Welsh language:

(i) **Officer summary:** Specific /contrasting viewpoints outlined in respect of the reference to the Welsh language in the Vision.

(ii) **Officer response:** In recognising the Welsh Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050, it is considered appropriate that the Vision explicitly states that our region will be a contributor towards meeting this target in 2035. To this end, the Vision appropriately reflects key national policy commitments and the importance of the language to the social fabric of our region.

#### 1.5.4 Making the connections:

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that there is a need to secure the serious inclusion of the private sector as part of effective regional collaboration efforts. Also, it is claimed that the Vision should state that South West Wales is an integral part of Wales and that it will make a strong contribution to Wales as a whole nation.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is accepted that specific reference to all sectors – including the private sector - within the Vision would be helpful. It is also accepted that the Vision should recognise that the region is an integral part of Wales and will continue to make a strong contribution to Wales as a whole nation in 2035.

### 1.5.5 Social fabric and face to face services

(i) **Officer summary:** It is stated that the importance of access to sport & leisure services in order to promote physical & mental health – along with the need to enhance well being - are huge priorities given that the stats on dietary and the use of substances are key issues. Also, it is stated that there is need to have accessible face to face services available for those who have communication issues and need that option (not just online).

(ii) **Officer response:** It is accepted that access to sport & leisure services are key issues, however, it is not considered that these would fall directly within the remit of the CJC. It is also noted that the Vision envisages that in 2035 “People are living and working in connected, inclusive and healthy places...” In regards the availability of face to face services, the CJC can make information as accessible as possible, particularly in the consultation processes associated with the Statutory Plans – i.e. the SDP and RTP.

### 1.5.6 Resilience of the natural environment

(i) **Officer summary:** It is stated that it is encouraging that the Vision includes reference to the need to increase the resilience of our natural environments by creating the networks linking ecosystems

(ii) **Officer response:** Support welcomed.

## 1.6 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.6.1 Include a reference within the Vision to recognising the region as an integral part of Wales and its strong contribution to Wales as a whole nation. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/1 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

1.6.2 Include reference to the importance of a sustainable and engaged agriculture sector in the Vision. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/2 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

1.6.3 Include reference to ‘all sectors – including private industry’ within the Vision. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/3 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

## **The Draft Aim**

*How far do you agree that our Draft Aim sets out a clear pathway for the next 5 years as we work towards achieving our Draft Vision for South West Wales 2035?*

1.7 **Answers:** Strongly agree (20.59%), Agree (55.88%), Disagree (14.71%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (8.82%).

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards to our Draft Aim*

1.8 **Officer response:** Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for the Draft Aim. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

### 1.8.1 Terminology

(i) **Officer summary:** Reference made to the terminology ('lack of plain English').

(ii) **Officer response:** The Corporate Plan will inevitably read in corporate language and it should be noted that the Corporate Plan consultation was accompanied by an 'Easy Read' and 'Plan on a Page'.

### 1.8.2 Deliverability and Scrutiny

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that there are concerns as to the deliverability of the Corporate Plan and how achievable the aspirations are noting the financial challenges faced. A comment states *"It would be nice to see a brief yearly report on how you are doing against your objectives. Will small nuclear be included to sustain our region and maintain steel production? Will all the steel be local to increase jobs and lower greenhouse gases?"*

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference is made to Section 9 of the Corporate Plan – 'Measuring Our Performance'. It should be noted that Annual Reports will be produced to measure progress being made in respect of the well-being objectives, whilst the CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will also have a role in this regard.

In preparing the SDP and RTP, specific agreements will need to be drawn up in the form of a Delivery Agreement and Implementation Plan respectively. The preparation of such Plans will include engagement with a range of stakeholders. It is accepted that the budget available will influence what can be achieved and whilst not a direct response to these comments on the Aim, reference may be made to Table 2 in Appendix 2 of this report, where officer updates are suggested to the Corporate Plan's appendices with a view to sharpening up the action planning aspects.

It is accepted that there will be challenges facing the CJC moving forward – including resources. It is considered however that the production of the Corporate Plan and its well-being objectives allows for such challenges to be tackled in an integrated manner. With regards financial challenges, the Corporate Plan clearly acknowledges these from the outset and an extract from the Foreword as provided by Cllr Rob Stewart is as follows *"Whilst the outlook for public spending is very challenging, we also see significant opportunities to grow the regional economy and are committed to working together to realise those opportunities."*

The comments raised regarding small nuclear and steel production are considered to be matters of detail which would be considered within Plans, Policies and Programmes as they emerge.

### 1.8.3 Timescales

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that that the formulation of Plans by 2028 does not appear to give sufficient time to deliver upon ambitions by 2035. Also, it is claimed that bullet point 1 of the Aim should be completed well before 2028 (end of 2023 is suggested by the respondent).

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that the reference to 2028 is appropriate. This allows for the delivery of the Plan’s Vision and ambitions by 2035, whilst also affording a degree of flexibility in this regard – noting the processes associated in the preparation of the 2 statutory Plans are emerging. With reference to the comment made on bullet point 1 of the Aim, it accepted that it is realistic to refer to this specific ‘sub-aim’ as being completed by the end of 2023.

#### 1.8.4 Involvement

(i) **Officer Summary:** It is stated that there is a need to ensure that people feel engaged and involved – including on specific issues e.g wind turbines.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that increasing involvement and making sure that residents are actively encouraged to contribute will be a challenge. Reference is made to paragraph 5.2.3 of the Corporate Plan which is set out below for ease of reference: *“**Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them:** This Plan will be subject to consultation. The preparation of this Corporate Plan has engendered an increased awareness of the need for us to develop a Participation Strategy. In noting that the Constituent Councils will have their own strategies and engagement exercises, we do have an opportunity to develop an approach which is proportionate and does not duplicate existing provisions within the region. In respect of the WBO’s themselves, specific reference should be given to WBO3 which emphasises the fact that the SDP Plan making process will be subject to consultation as per the requirements to prepare a Community Involvement Scheme. We will emphasise that a key message is one of involvement in the delivery of our well-being objectives and the undertaking of Plan making.”*

To this end, it should be noted that the production of the Statutory Plans (RTP and SDP) will be accompanied by a requirement for engagement and consultation.

#### 1.8.5 Enhancing wellbeing and resilient ecosystems -

(i) **Officer Summary:** It is requested that an additional aim/ ‘sub-aim’ is included that reflects the commitment in the Vision to embedding the need to enhance wellbeing and resilient ecosystems into all decision making. The aims currently refer only to the net zero carbon journey part of the nature and climate emergency.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is not considered that a specific aim/ ‘sub-aim’ is required in this regard. Such matters will be suitably integrated into the corporate governance of the CJC by virtue of the fact that the Section 6 Duty Plan is embedded into the Corporate Plan.

### 1.9 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.9.1 Clarify within bullet point / ‘sub-aim 1 (i.e. ‘Complete all of the constitutional, corporate and governance aspects of the SWWCJC’s establishment’) that this will be achieved by the end of 2023. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/4 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

## **The Draft Well-being objectives as a whole**

*Taking our 3 Draft Well-being Objectives as a whole, how far do you agree that they provide a sound focus for us to guide our initial work and ultimately achieve our Draft Aim and deliver our Draft Vision in the longer term?*

1.10 **Answers:** Strongly agree (21.88%), Agree (56.25%), Disagree (6.25%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (15.62%)

*Noting that that legally we can only work on strategic planning, regional transport, regional energy and the promotion of economic well-being (and that we are in a challenging financial environment), please let us know if there is anything else you think we should be identifying and/or considering in setting our Well-being objectives?*

1.11 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for the 3 draft well-being objectives as a whole – notwithstanding any comments as to the well-being objectives individually. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

### **1.11.1 Infrastructural considerations**

(i) **Officer summary:** The importance of strategic infrastructure investment was emphasised, particularly in regards transport. Specific areas / issues within the region were identified – as was the need for lobbying for investment in this regard.

(ii) **Officer response:** The comments received are duly noted and reflect the emphasis on having a joined up and integrated approach. It is considered in that as the individual Plans, Policies and Programmes of the CJC are developed, such matters can be addressed and raised as appropriate within implementation phases. Reference is also made to the establishment of the thematic sub-committees of the CJC (including transport), where matters of detail can be considered and actioned accordingly.

### **1.11.2 Agriculture**

(i) **Officer summary:** The importance of agriculture within the region as highlighted – with specific comments made on resilience of the food chain/food miles/biodiversity/net zero.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is accepted that agriculture has a key role to play. Whilst it is not proposed to amend any of the 3 well-being objectives to make explicit reference to agriculture, reference should be made to paragraph 1.6.2 of this appendix, where it is proposed to refer to sustainable agriculture within the Vision of the Plan.

### **1.11.3 Social fabric**

(i) **Officer summary:** The importance of a strategic plan was raised with reference to the economically challenged areas across the region. Considerations raised included meaningful kids activities to steer them away from boredom, drugs etc.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is not considered that these important issues would fall directly within the remit of the CJC. It is also noted that the Vision does states that in 2035 *“People are living and working in connected, inclusive and healthy places...”*

#### 1.11.4 Allocation of resource, production of Plans and terminology:

(i) **Officer summary:** Concerns in regards the deliverability of the Plan, its resourcing and the terminology used were raised. The need to be realistic about what will be done was raised.

(ii) **Officer response** It is considered that the Corporate Plan is quite clear in recognising the statutory duties and powers available to the CJC and its defined remit in this regard. This also extends to the fact that the requirement to produce the RTP and SDP have been mandated onto the CJC. In regards the terminology and engagement, reference can be made to paragraphs 1.8.1 and 1.8.4 of this appendix.

#### 1.11.5 Other organisations plans and the order of the objectives.

(i) **Officer summary:** Reference was made to the preparation of Plans and objectives by other organisations – including the PSBs and the wider connections that are required in this regard.

Specific suggestions were made in regards Table 1 (paragraph 5.8) of the Plan in regards (i) A Resilient Wales (ii) A Healthier Wales and (iii) A Globally Responsible Wales (see paragraph 1.12 of this appendix for detail).

It was claimed that the order in which the objectives are set out needs to be amended.

(ii) **Officer response:** The wider landscape in regards the development of plans and objectives is noted. The CJC can take opportunities to work in partnership to accrue added value and to avoid duplication. It should be noted that there is a commitment to review the CJC well-being objectives on an annual basis and as such amendments may be made as and where appropriate.

In terms of the specific suggested amendments in regards Table 1 (paragraph 5.8) of the Plan, it is accepted these will add value and clarity. Reference should be made to paragraph 1.12 of this appendix in this regard.

In regards the claim that the order in which the well-being objectives are set out needs to be changed, it should be noted that they are not listed in level of importance and should in fact be read together as part of an integrated approach.

### 1.12 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.12.1 In regards Table 1 at paragraph 5.8 of the Plan, the following changes are required:

(i). The ‘Healthier Wales’ goal (Integrated contribution of our well-being objectives column) requires a recognition that transport is a major contributor to poor air quality, especially in urban areas, and is also a driver of climate change (itself having health impacts). The connection to active travel also

promotes a healthier population from the point of view of increased physical exercise. Improving access to blue and green spaces can also have positive impacts for health/health inequalities. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/9 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

(ii). The 'Resilient Wales' goal (Integrated contribution of our well-being objectives column) should make reference to identifying climate risks to assets and communities and actions that will need to be taken to address these across multiple areas of society and the economy. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/8 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

(iii). The 'Globally Responsible Wales' goal (Integrated contribution of our well-being objectives column) should acknowledge that the economic development plan isn't just relevant in the context of decarbonisation, but also in terms of how it might address social and environmental impacts on a global scale, e.g. through off-shoring. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/11 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

### **Draft Well-being objective 1**

*How far do you agree that Draft Well-being Objective 1 is logical given that it reflects the progress already made in terms of the South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan and the South West Wales Regional Energy Strategy and that the Draft Objective is also realistic given that it is supported by clear action/measures/steps as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the Draft Corporate Plan which acknowledge the challenging financial climate?*

1.13 **Answers** for logical: Strongly agree (16.13%), Agree (58.07%), Disagree (12.90%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (12.90%).

1.14 **Answers** for realistic: Strongly agree (6.67%), Agree (33.33%), Disagree (13.33%), Strongly disagree (10%) and Don't know (36.67%).

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards this Draft Objective and/or Appendices 1/2 of the Draft Corporate Plan?*

1.15 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for Draft well-being objective 1 – albeit it is accepted that in regards 'realistic' the results are notable. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

#### **1.15.1 Collaboration and Accountability**

(i) **Officer summary:** Representations questioned whether Authorities working collaboratively will work, particularly when they often have different or conflicting priorities. Also, with reference to collaboratively delivering, emphasis was put on clarifying matters of responsibility and accountability.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be noted there is a track record of regional working within South West Wales. The South West Wales CJC is a statutory body which was put in place by the Welsh Government. The requirements for delivering through the CJC are mandated legally, whilst the CJC has already made considerable progress- not least in terms of constitutional and governance aspects. The accountability for delivery rests with the CJC and

information on the CJC's Governance and Constitutional Framework is set out within the Corporate Plan.

Reference is made to Section 9 of the Corporate Plan – 'Measuring Our Performance'. It should be noted that Annual Reports will be produced to measure progress being made in respect of the well-being objectives, whilst the CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will also have a role in this regard.

It is considered that in undertaking its functions, including the production of the Statutory Plans, the CJC can seek to collaborate as widely as possible with key stakeholders and representatives from a number of sectors.

#### 1.15.2 Constraints (including financial)

(i) **Officer summary:** Constraints / financial challenges are highlighted.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is accepted that there will be challenges facing the CJC moving forward – notably financial / resources. It is considered however that the production of the Corporate Plan and its well-being objectives allows for such challenges to be tackled in an integrated manner.

With regards financial challenges, the Corporate Plan clearly acknowledges these from the outset and an extract from the Foreword as provided by Cllr Rob Stewart is as follows *"Whilst the outlook for public spending is very challenging, we also see significant opportunities to grow the regional economy and are committed to working together to realise those opportunities."*

#### 1.15.3 Private Sector engagement

(i) **Officer summary:** The importance of a route map for private sector engagement is raised.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is agreed that this is a key matter.

Reference should be made to paragraph 7.3 of the Corporate Plan where it is confirmed that *"We have also agreed an approach for the appointment of private sector representatives to an Advisory Board"*. Also, reference may be made to paragraph 1.6.3 of this appendix in respect of a proposed amendment to the Plan's Vision.

#### 1.15.4 Policy considerations

(i) **Officer summary:** The need for town centre and inner-city regeneration are cited as part of an integrated approach.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that such matters will be for the emerging Plans, Policies and Programmes (including the RTP and SDP) of the CJC to consider in accordance with the relevant policy frameworks – e.g. Future Wales and Llwybr Newydd.

The reference to an integrated approach is helpful and is noted. With specific reference to well-being objective 1, reference is made to the Regional

Economic Delivery Plan (REDP), where under Mission 3: “*Growing and sustaining the South West Wales ‘experience’ offer*” there is reference to “*Investing in our experience economy... we will invest in our city, town and community centres*”.

#### 1.15.5 **Specific Comment and Progress to date**

(i) **Officer summary:** The brackets around the word decarbonised in well-being objective 1 is queried. Also, concerns are raised that progress to date has not been set out.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that removing the brackets around the word decarbonised within the objective would aid clarity.

With regards progress to date, it is considered that paragraph 4.5 of the Corporate Plan clarifies such matters suitably. Section 2 of the Corporate Plan provided this detail, with the documents of relevance to well-being objective 1 being the REDP and the Regional Energy Strategy (RES) – both of which have been adopted / approved already by the CJC.

Information as to the progress made from a governance / constitutional point of view (including the establishment of the sub-committees) is set out in Section 7 of the Corporate Plan. These sub-committees include economic-well being and energy.

#### 1.15.6 **Editorial –**

(i) **Officer summary:** A query is raised with regards page 49 (Appendix 1 of the Corporate Plan) – in that the statement ' the cost of development far exceeding the cost of development' does not make sense.

(ii) **Officer response:** This is an editorial error, with the extract intended to state that “the cost of development exceeding the **end value** of the development”.

However, reference should be made to the wider suite of changes for the appendix as set out in Table 2 - Appendix 2 of this report. In this regard, it should be noted that the whole block of text is earmarked for deletion in any event.

### 1.16 **Recommended changes to the Plan:**

1.16.1 Remove the brackets around the word decarbonised within well-being objective 1. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/5 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

#### **Draft Well-being objective 2**

*How far do you agree that Draft Well-being Objective 2 is logical given that it reflects our legal duty to prepare a Regional Transport Plan for South West Wales and that the Draft Objective is also realistic given that it is supported by clear action/measures/steps as set out in Appendix 3 of the Draft Corporate Plan which acknowledges the challenging financial climate?*

- 1.17 **Answers** for logical: Strongly agree (25.81%), Agree (48.39%), Disagree (9.68%), Strongly disagree (3.22%) and Don't know (12.90%)
- 1.18 **Answers** for realistic: Strongly agree (3.33%), Agree (33.33%), Disagree (16.67%), Strongly disagree (16.67%) and Don't know (30%)

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards this Draft Objective and/or Appendix 3 of the Draft Corporate Plan?*

- 1.19 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for Draft well-being objective 2 – albeit it is accepted that in regards ‘realistic’ the results are notable. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

#### 1.19.1 **Specific Policy Considerations / proposed interventions**

(i) **Officer summary:** There are a number of comments made in regards specific matters (e.g importance of non vehicular transport modes / cycling, investment/subsidy needs and concerns with specific transport issues within the region e.g. request for Dual carriage way to Haverfordwest.).

It is claimed that it should be made abundantly clear that this is not just a Plan for transport within the region, but also transport into and out of the region, through the region, beyond the boundaries of Wales and possibly even the UK.

Journey times and accessing services are raised – with Pembrokeshire cited as an example. A comment was received stating that *“Realistic implies not just that it is feasible to happen but that it is made to happen. Despite the Wales transport Strategy placing great value of connectivity, their actions (discontinuing through trains from Manchester to Milford Haven and replacing with two halves which do not connect) do not reflect this. If a plan is to be realistic it needs to be managed to happen and not just ignored.”*

(ii) **Officer response:** Whilst helpful, the matters raised are considered to be more relevant to the production of the RTP itself (and potentially for the consideration of the transport sub-committee). In this regard, the preparation and engagement associated with RTP production will allow for such matters to be considered in detail as matters of policy – including those comments relating to journey times, the need to consider north-south travel as well as east-west travel and also the need to consider integration with other policy considerations such as town centre regeneration efforts.

In terms of how realistic the well-being objective is, it should be noted that the RTP is a statutory plan – however it is accepted that for the RTP to be deliverable sufficient resource and policy alignment will be required.

#### 1.19.2 **RTP delivery/implementation and collaboration**

(i) **Officer summary:** Doubts expressed as to whether the RTP will be delivered and implemented.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is clear that the success of this well-being objective hinges on the successful delivery and implementation of the RTP. It should be noted in this regard that the CJC is taking incremental steps forward – albeit within the recognition of budgetary pressures. To this end, the CJC will consider the draft RTP guidance as issued by the Welsh Government on March 30 2023. Progress is also being made on securing dedicated staffing resource, with the 2023/24 CJC budget now agreed.

In regards collaboration, it should be noted there is a track record of regional working within South West Wales. Furthermore, the requirements for delivering through the CJC are mandated legally, whilst the CJC has already made considerable progress- not least in terms of constitutional and governance aspects. It is considered that in undertaking its functions, including the production of the Statutory Plans, the CJC can seek to collaborate as widely as possible with key stakeholders and representatives from a number of sectors.

#### 1.19.3 Rural context

(i) **Officer summary** Concern that transport in rural areas may become the 'poor relation' when compared with transport in urban areas. There needs to be clear support for transport to and from more isolated communities.

(ii) **Officer response:** Whilst it is considered that matters of policy detail will be for the RTP itself, it is considered that referring explicitly to both urban and rural within the well-being objective is appropriate as it will assist in shaping the recognition of such considerations from the outset.

#### 1.19.4 Contemporary perspective and local need

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that the RTP needs to consider the needs of today as well that of future generations.

Also, it is claimed that the RTP needs to be for the benefit of those who live or operate in the region, but this will also include those travelling into, out of, or through the region. There needs to be a thorough understanding of the journeys people want to make, and why they choose one mode over another. In formulating the RTP, it is accepted that balancing the need to reflect national policy with the local dimension will be a key consideration.

The importance of transport being linked up to key facilities – eg hospital services – was also cited.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is agreed that it would be beneficial for the well-being objective to reference the needs of today as well that of future generations as a matter of clarity.

In regards the other matters raised, it is considered that such matters of policy detail will be for the RTP itself to consider. In formulating the RTP, it is considered that balancing the need to reflect national policy with a locally distinctive approach will be a key consideration.

## 1.20 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.20.1 Insert reference to a transport system which is good for current as well as future generations within well-being objective 2. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/6 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

1.20.2 Insert reference to both rural and urban within well-being objective 2. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/7 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

### **Draft Well-being objective 3**

*How far do you agree that Draft Well-being Objective 3 is logical given that it reflects our legal duty to prepare a Strategic Development Plan for South West Wales and that the Draft Objective is also realistic given that it is supported by clear action/measures/steps as set out in Appendix 4 of the Draft Corporate Plan which acknowledges the challenging financial climate?*

1.21 **Answers** for logical: Strongly agree (16.13%), Agree (54.84%), Disagree (6.45%), Strongly disagree (3.23%) and Don't know (19.35%).

1.22 **Answers** for realistic: Strongly agree (3.22%), Agree (48.39%), Disagree (16.13%), Strongly disagree (6.45%) and Don't know (25.81%).

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards this Draft Objective and/or Appendix 4 of the Draft Corporate Plan*

1.23 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for Draft well-being objective 3. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

#### 1.23.1 Engagement and Consultation

(i) **Officer summary:** Concern expressed over engagement and consultation – with too much ‘corporate talk’. It is also claimed that effective mechanisms are needed for meaningful engagement with industry leaders and regionally influential employers.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be noted that well-being objective 3 explicitly refers to stakeholder engagement and collaboration. Reference is also made to paragraph 5.2.3 of the Corporate Plan where ‘involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them’ is discussed. To this end, it should be noted that the production of the Statutory Plans (RTP and SDP) will be accompanied by a requirement for engagement and consultation (in the case of the SDP a Community Involvement Scheme).

In regards engagement with industry leaders and regionally influential employers, reference should be made to paragraph 7.3 of the Corporate Plan where it is stated that “*We have also agreed an approach for the appointment of private sector representatives to an Advisory Board*”. Also, reference may be made to paragraph 1.6.3 of this appendix in respect of a proposed amendment to the Plan’s vision.

### 1.23.2 Measuring success and timescales –

(i) **Officer summary:** Comments indicate that more clarity is needed on action and defining success. It is also claimed that formulation of the Plan by 2028 does not appear to give sufficient time to deliver the Vision by 2035.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is clear that the success of this well-being objective hinges on the successful delivery and implementation of the SDP. It should be noted in this regard that the CJC is taking incremental steps forward – albeit within the recognition of budgetary pressures.

In terms of timescales, further clarity as to the timescale for the preparation of the SDP will become apparent once the Delivery Agreement is formalised in due course. Therefore, it is considered that the reference to 2028 within the aim is suitable due to the flexibility afforded, however such matters can be subject to ongoing monitoring and review as appropriate. It should be noted that the requirement to produce SDPs is mandated.

### 1.23.3 Policy considerations

(i) **Officer summary:** It is stated that whilst a locally distinctive approach is important, liaising with adjacent CJC's will be required to ensure a 'joined up Wales'. The importance of town centre regeneration is highlighted. The LDPs drawn up within the region are raised.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that these matters will be for the SDP preparation process and the associated evidence base and relevant planning policy frameworks (including national policy in the form of Future Wales). The requirement for an understanding and recognition of the role of LDPs within the region is implicit and duly noted in this regard. To this end, it is not considered that these comments necessitate an amendment to well-being objective 3.

## 1.24 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.24.1 None.

### **Draft Equality Objective – A more equal South West Wales by 2035**

*How far do you agree that our Draft Equality Objective clearly sets out our commitment to achieving a more equal South West Wales by 2035?*

1.25 **Answers:** Strongly agree (25.80%), Agree (48.39%), Disagree (16.13%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (9.68%)

*Please let us know if there are any amendments, including additions, that you would like to see in regards this Draft Objective.*

1.26 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for the Draft Equality Objective. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

### 1.26.1 Specific Policy Considerations / proposed interventions

(i) **Officer summary:** Comments were made in regards specific transport matters /ideas (non vehicular transport modes and investment/subsidy ideas).

(ii) **Officer response:** Comments noted. reference should be made to the officer response provided at paragraph 1.19.1 of this appendix.

### 1.26.2 Llwybr Newydd

(i) **Officer summary:** Disagreement is noted with elements of the Welsh Government's policies listed, particularly Llwybr Newydd and it is stated that *“addressing the region’s own needs to be prioritised over the Welsh Government’s political aims.”* It is also claimed that economic barriers to the use of transport services are far more important than language barriers – hence ‘linguistic’ should be at the end of the list as set out in paragraph (b) of the Objective.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that achieving the desired balance between the provisions and policies as set out with national policy and the production of a framework which meets the needs of the region will be a key component in the production of the RTP itself.

In noting the comments made in regards economic/linguistic matters, it should be noted that paragraph (b) reflects the delineation as set out within Llwybr Newydd. Rather than focus on one aspect/barrier, it is considered that an integrated approach is required and as such there would be ‘no order of importance’ when it comes to potential barriers in respect of preventing the use of sustainable transport.

### 1.26.3 Reference to poverty

(i) **Officer summary:** A comment was received querying the reference to poverty in the equality objective.

(ii) **Officer response:** The reference to eliminating inequality caused by poverty reflects one of the Welsh Government’s long term equality aims as set out its Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024. This is considered to be appropriate given the CJs powers and functions and taking into account the challenges faced across the region.

It should also be noted that CJs are relevant authorities that are required to make and demonstrate their contribution towards the eradication of child poverty in Wales.

### 1.26.4 Content is too broad

(i) **Officer Summary** – It is claimed that the content is too broad.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that the setting of an overarching equality objective, coupled with the adoption of an integrated impact assessment tool, will allow the CJC to suitably embed a number of pertinent considerations into its corporate governance framework – noting its public

sector duties. There will be opportunities to review and reflect as the CJC matures over the coming years, however this is considered to be an important first step.

#### 1.26.5 Specific concern

(i) **Officer Summary** – Specific concerns are raised about the accessibility of trains, with issues in Pembrokeshire specifically cited (along with a specific experience of a respondent in this regard). It is stated that “*however well you plan for disabilities in routine circumstances you also need to plan for them properly when your service changes*”.

(ii) **Officer response:** Comments noted. The clear relationship between transport and accessibility is acknowledged. To this end, it is considered that a key consideration for the RTP and wider work of the CJC will be the consideration of inclusivity.

#### 1.27 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.27.1 None.

#### **Public Sector Duties, Plans and Strategies**

*Whilst we take a taking a proportionate and integrated approach to meeting our wider public sector duties, how far do you agree that Section 8 of the Draft Corporate Plan demonstrates that we are being proactive from the outset in regards our responsibilities and policy commitments – for example our adoption of an Integrated Impact Assessment tool?*

1.28 **Answers:** Strongly agree (12.90%), Agree (45.16%), Disagree (6.45%), Strongly disagree (0%) and Don't know (35.49%)

1.29 **Officer response** - Statistically, it is considered that there is general support for proposed approach. A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

##### 1.29.1 Historic landscape and Built heritage –

(i) **Officer summary:** Concern expressed that there is no reference within Section 8 of the Plan to the historic landscape or built heritage which also need preserving for future generations.

(ii) **Officer response:** Whilst the Section 6 Duty Plan itself seeks to meet the specific requirements placed upon the CJC under The Environment (Wales) Act 2016, it is considered that reference to the historic landscape and built heritage within Section 8 of the Plan would be appropriate so that there is a corporate recognition of the importance of such matters moving forward.

##### 1.29.2 Agricultural Sector

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that biodiversity needs the active involvement of those who make their living from the land and that there needs to be a clear involvement with the agricultural sector.

(ii) **Officer response:** The importance of such matters is noted. Reference can be made to paragraph 1.6.2 of this appendix in this regard.

### 1.29.3 Democratic aspects

(i) **Officer summary:** A Comment was received stating: *“What voice do I have outside the Council. In other words, Councillors will still do what they seem fit”*.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be noted that the Corporate Plan and its associated documentation was published for consultation. Reference can be made to paragraph 1.23.1 of this appendix in regards matters of engagement and consultation.

### 1.29.4 Integrated Impact Assessment Tool

(i) **Officer summary:** The CJC’s commitment to the use of this tool is cited.

(ii) **Officer response:** Comments welcomed.

### 1.29.5 Section 6 Biodiversity Duty Plan

(i) **Officer summary:** NRW has undertaken further relevant work since the publication of The Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Wales. It is advised that the Corporate Plan takes into consideration the content within the Marine Area Statement and the Welsh National Marine Plan given the significant implications for marine and coastal environments in the region. There is an interest in making the Area Statements more useful and to work with the CJC and relevant partners in tackling the challenges and realising the opportunities set out.

NRW has published State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) for Wales 2020, which promotes the need for a regenerative economy and associated transformative changes to our food, energy and transport systems. It also identifies that work is needed to meet the 4 interconnected, long terms aims of sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR) These are: safeguarded and enhanced natural resources, resilient ecosystems, healthy places for people, and a regenerative economy. The CJC has an important role to play in helping to achieve these aims.

(ii) **Officer response:** The reference to working with the CJC on the Area Statements is welcomed. In regards the other comments, it is accepted that reference to these documents and policies within the Duty Plan would be useful as a matter of clarity and to reflect the contemporary position. Reference should be made to paragraph 1.30.2 of this appendix in this regard.

## 1.30 Recommended changes to the Plan

1.30.1 Include reference within paragraph 8.7 of the Corporate Plan to historic landscape and built heritage. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/13 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

1.30.2 Include reference within the Section 6 Duty Plan (Table 3 of the Corporate Plan) to the Marine Area Statement, Welsh National Marine Plan, SoNaRR and the SMNR. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/16 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

## **Any further comments about the Draft Corporate Plan**

1.31 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below.

### **1.31.1 Delivering and Measuring Performance**

(i) **Officer summary:** The deliverability of the Corporate Plan is questioned in terms of the degree to which intentions can be turned into reality – it is claimed that there is a need for tangible objectives.

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference is made to Section 9 of the Corporate Plan – ‘Measuring Our Performance’. It should be noted that Annual Reports will be produced to measure progress being made in respect of the well-being objectives, whilst the CJC Overview and Scrutiny will also have a role in this regard.

In preparing the SDP and RTP, specific agreements will need to be drawn up in the form of a Delivery Agreement and Implementation Plan respectively and the preparation of such Plans will include engagement with a range of stakeholders. It is accepted that the budget available will influence what can be achieved and whilst not a direct response to these comments on the Aim, reference may be made to Table 2 in Appendix 2 of this report, where officer updates are suggested to the Corporate Plan’s appendices with a view to sharpening up the action planning aspects.

### **1.31.2 Comments relating to growth and focus upon areas west of Swansea**

(i) **Officer summary:** The focus on growth was questioned and whether the aims are achievable. Also, a comment was submitted stating that “The Welsh Government has ignored anywhere west of Swansea for the last 25 years and will continue to do so”.

(ii) **Officer response:** With regards the comments on growth and deliverability, the Corporate Plan recognises those policy priorities already agreed by the CJC – notably the REDP and RES, as well as the duty to prepare the RTP and SDP. Therefore, it will be for the evidence base of these respective Plans to determine such matters in detail. It should be noted that the South West Wales CJC is a corporate body with defined legal duties having been established by the Welsh Government. Reference is made to Section 9 of the Corporate Plan – ‘Measuring Our Performance’. It should also be noted that Annual Reports will be produced to measure progress being made in respect of the well-being objectives, whilst the CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will also have a role in this regard.

The claims made in regards the Welsh Government focus on areas west of Swansea are noted and would be for the Welsh Government to respond to as they see fit.

### 1.31.3 Terminology in general and specific queries

(i) **Officer summary:** Concerns are expressed as to the language used in the Corporate Plan – notably that it is “bureaucratic and woolly” and that “none of this would stand up for five minutes in a commercial environment”. Specific queries are also raised as to the references within the Corporate Plan to “resilience to future technology” and “economic inclusion outcomes” (Table 1 Paragraph 5.8 of the Plan refers).

(ii) **Officer response:** The Corporate Plan will inevitably read in corporate language and it should be noted that the Corporate Plan consultation was accompanied by an ‘Easy Read’ and ‘Plan on a Page’.

In regards the query on the meaning of “Resilience to future technology” reference should be made to the REDP for the full context of the statement. As a region we endeavour to keep track of technology advancement and attempt to ensure the region is well equipped to deal effectively to any future changes.

In regards the query on the meaning of “economic inclusion outcomes” reference should be made to the REDP for the full context of the statement. By engaging with local communities, it is envisaged that there will be stronger community linkages which in itself will bring people together and improve economic inclusion across the region.

### 1.31.4 Overarching comments

(i) **Officer summary:** NRW has identified the key systems where transformative change is required in response to the dual nature and climate crisis: food, energy and transport. With its remit for strategic planning and regional transport planning, the CJC has an important role in shaping our response to these crises in SW Wales. The plan recognises the fantastic environment that we have in the area, including national parks and AoNB. It should also be noted that the SW Wales area and coast also host internationally important environments, including those within the marine protected areas. Whilst net-zero and decarbonisation feature centrally in the Region’s future economic development plan, and that is to be applauded, relevant plans and development will need to be sympathetic and compatible with the safeguarding of these designated areas.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is agreed that referring to the SW Wales area and coast hosting internationally important environments (including those within the marine protected areas) and the need to be sympathetic and compatible with the safeguarding of these designated areas would be helpful and would further embed the consideration of such matters within the corporate governance of the CJC.

## 1.32 Recommended changes to the Plan:

1.32.1 Include reference within paragraph 8.7 of the Plan to the SW Wales area and coast hosting internationally important environments (including those within the

marine protected areas) and as such relevant plans and development will need to be sympathetic and compatible with the safeguarding of these designated areas. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/14 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.

## **Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) related comments**

### **Equalities - Protected Characteristics**

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact in respect of age and disability. What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

**1.33 Officer response** A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan in terms of age and disability.

#### **1.33.1 Engagement and responsibilities**

(i) **Officer summary:** A request is made to appoint a Councillor in cabinet to deal directly with age related issues and moreover disabilities and to make this person a point of contact (not delegate). A further comment states that there are no meaningful proposals to seek increased public involvement which should be a priority.

(ii) **Officer response:** The preparation of this Corporate Plan has engendered an increased awareness of the need to develop a CJC Participation Strategy. In noting that the Constituent Councils will have their own strategies and engagement exercises, there is an opportunity to develop an approach which is proportionate and does not duplicate existing provisions within the region. It is considered that the preparation of a Participation Strategy can increase any positive impacts and lessen any negative impacts.

The comment with regards definition of duties is noted, albeit this may be more akin to the roles of Councillors within their respective Constituent Councils.

#### **1.33.2 Sport and Leisure**

(i) **Officer summary:** A focus on sport and leisure opportunities is required.

(ii) **Officer response:** The importance sport & leisure opportunities is duly noted. However, it is not considered that such matters would fall directly within the remit of the CJC and the Corporate Plan. However, from the point of view of strengthening the IIA, adding a reference to a potential indirect link is deemed appropriate.

#### **1.33.3 Wider benefits**

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that benefits have only been described in terms of transport. What about the employment of older people and people with disabilities ?

(ii) **Officer response :** It is considered that delivering the Corporate Plan will have employment benefits for all age groups and for people with disabilities. Therefore it is considered that adding such a reference within the IIA is appropriate.

#### 1.33.4 Individual customer experiences

(i) **Officer summary:** With reference to comments previously provided under paragraph 1.26.5, further information is provided on a recent customer experience, with reference to autism.

(ii) **Officer response :** The comments are noted. The clear relationship between transport and accessibility / customer experience is noted and to this end it is considered that a key consideration for the RTP and the wider work of the CJC will be the emphasis on inclusive approaches.

#### 1.34 Recommended changes to the IIA:

1.34.1 Add in reference to the opportunity to prepare a Participation Strategy for the CJC in the future. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/1 in Appendix 3 of this report.

1.34.2 Add in reference to the potential indirect contribution that can be made in respect of sports and leisure. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/2 in Appendix 3 of this report.

1.34.3 Add in reference to the potential positive contribution of delivering well-being objective 1 on all age groups and for people with a disability. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/3 in Appendix 3 of this report.

#### 1.35 Answers

Gender reassignment	Yes 0%	No 76%	Don't Know 24%
Marriage or civil partnership	Yes 11.54%	No 73.08%	Don't Know 15.38%
Pregnancy and maternity	Yes 3.85%	No 76.92%	Don't Know 19.23%
Race	Yes 4%	No 80%	Don't Know 16%
Religion or belief	Yes 4%	No 76%	Don't Know 20%
Sex	Yes 4%	No 80%	Don't Know 16%
Sexual orientation	Yes 11.54%	No 69.23%	Don't Know 19.23%

*What action will do you think we can take to improve any positive or mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.36 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is considered that results set out in the table above indicate that respondents did not anticipate an impact on them and/or their family resulting from the Corporate Plan in regards the identified characteristics. It is deemed appropriate therefore to leave the anticipated impact for these 7 characteristics as neutral in the IIA and continue to monitor as appropriate.

#### 1.36.1 - Engagement and responsibilities

(i) **Officer summary:** It is deemed important to prioritise the interaction between local communities and the involvement of residents within those communities. Councillor surgeries are suggested, and it is emphasised that there needs to be a focus on awareness raising and the educational aspect. Concerns that this is a ‘tick box exercise’.

(ii) **Officer response:** In terms of interaction and engagement, it is considered that the preparation of the Corporate Plan has engendered an increased awareness of the need to develop a CJC Participation Strategy. In noting that the Constituent Councils will have their own strategies and engagement exercises, we do have an opportunity to develop an approach which is proportionate and does not duplicate existing provisions within the region. It is considered that the preparation of a Participation Strategy can increase any positive impacts and lessen any negative impacts. This can also assist in raising awareness and the educational aspects.

In regards the comment on a ‘tick box’ exercise, it is important that the CJC is as informed as possible when drafting the Corporate Plan about the Plan’s impact and in this regard reference is made to the pertinent public sector duties and legal responsibilities as they apply to the CJC. The IIA is a means in which the CJC can obtain key information in this regard.

In terms of participation aspects, reference can be made to paragraph 1.34.1 of this appendix.

#### 1.36.2 **Focus**

(i) **Officer summary:** There is a need to be more specific about what achievements are intended to be secured.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that at this early stage of the CJC’s existence, the Corporate Plan does provide a measurable and realistic route map which recognises the applicable statutory and policy frameworks.

#### 1.36.3 **Regional Context**

(i) **Officer summary:** A comment is received stating *“Presumably disabilities and inequalities are not regional, though people who exhibit them may be within the region. Is there any particular reason why the region would have an above average proportion of any particular inequality disability. Presumably there are national lists of disabilities and national lists of mitigations. The problem is the same throughout the UK. Would the solution, or the emphasis have any reason to be different in SWWales?”*

(ii) **Officer response:** As the work of the CJC develops (including the formulation of the RTP and SDP) an increased understanding of the particular social and economic fabric of the region can be captured. Reference can be made to the well-being plans and accompanying well-being assessments that have already been undertaken within the region.

In this regard, it is accepted that the IIA can be strengthened by making reference to the importance of gaining an understanding of the disabilities and inequalities position as it applies to the region as the work of the CJC progresses.

### 1.37 **Recommended changes to the IIA:**

1.37.1 Add in reference to the importance of gaining an understanding of the disabilities and inequalities position as it applies to the region as part of the development of a locally distinctive evidence base as the work of the CJC progresses. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/4 in Appendix 3 of this report.

### **Public Sector Equality Duty**

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact. What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.38 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan.

#### **1.38.1 Terminology, deliverability and Involvement**

(i) **Officer summary:** The deliverability of the aspirations are challenged and there is scepticism as to whether anything will change. The terminology used is also questioned. Furthermore, the importance of raising awareness is stressed.

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference is made to Section 9 of the Corporate Plan – ‘Measuring Our Performance’. It should be noted that Annual Reports will be produced to measure progress being made in respect of the well-being objectives, whilst the CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee will also have a role in this regard. In preparing the SDP and RTP, specific agreements will need to be drawn up in the form of a Delivery Agreement and Implementation Plan respectively. The preparation of such Plans will include engagement with a range of stakeholders.

It is accepted that the budget available will influence what can be achieved and whilst not a direct response to these comments on the Aim, reference may be made to Table 2 in Appendix 2 of this report, where officer updates are suggested to the Corporate Plan’s appendices with a view to sharpening up the action planning aspects.

It is accepted that there will be challenges facing the CJC moving forward – including resources. It is considered however that the production of the Corporate Plan and its well-being objectives allows for such challenges to be tackled in an integrated manner. With regards financial challenges, the Corporate Plan clearly acknowledges these from the outset and an extract from the Foreword as provided by Cllr Rob Stewart is as follows *“Whilst the outlook for public spending is very challenging, we also see significant opportunities to grow the regional economy and are committed to working together to realise those opportunities.”*

The Corporate Plan will inevitably read in corporate language and it should be noted that the Corporate Plan consultation was accompanied by an ‘Easy Read’ and ‘Plan on a Page’.

Reference can be made to paragraph 1.34.1 of this appendix in regards participation / involvement aspects.

### 1.38.2 Rural and Urban – equality of opportunity in terms of the RTP

(i) **Officer summary:** It is stated that equality of opportunity between those in urban areas and those in rural areas needs to be fully supported by the transportation plan.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be recognised that as a response to the consultation on the Corporate Plan an amendment is proposed to well-being objective 2 to reflect such considerations in the Plan itself (see paragraph 1.20.2 of this appendix). It is also accepted that the IIA should also refer to the importance of this matter also so as to strengthen positive impact.

### 1.38.3 Transgender issues

(i) **Officer summary:** It is claimed that transgender issues should be ignored because they are a waste of resource.

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference should be made to the pertinent legal and policy related duties as they apply to the CJC as part of the recognition of its wider public sector duties.

## 1.39 Recommended changes to the IIA:

1.39.1 Add in reference to the importance of the RTP reflecting the importance of equality of opportunity between those in urban areas and those in rural areas. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/5 in Appendix 3 of this report.

## Socio-economic Duty

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact. What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.40 **Answers / comments received.** I actually do not think that the statements written mean anything.

- Promote awareness.
- Support for SMEs is essential to the growth of the economy.
- The golden thread is not very clear.

1.41 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan.

### 1.41.1 Terminology, Deliverability and Involvement

(i) **Officer summary:** Concern as whether the statements mean anything and a feeling that there is a need to promote awareness.

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference can be made to paragraph 1.38.1 of this appendix in regards deliverability and involvement aspects. Reference can be made to

paragraph 1.34.1 of this appendix in regards participation / involvement / awareness raising aspects.

#### 1.41.2 **Support for SME's**

(i) **Officer summary:** Support for SMEs is essential to the growth of the economy

(ii) **Officer response:** It is accepted that a reference to SMEs should be included within the IIA in recognition of their contribution.

#### 1.41.3 **Golden Thread**

(i) **Officer summary:** Concern that the golden thread is not very clear.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that when read alongside the Corporate Plan itself, the IIA does reflect the wider picture in terms of the CJC's defined functions and responsibilities – along with future ambitions.

### 1.42 **Recommended changes to the IIA:**

1.42.1 Add in reference to the importance of SME's. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/6 in Appendix 3 of this report.

### **Community Cohesion/Social Exclusion/Poverty**

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact. What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.43 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan.

#### 1.43.1 **Cohesion, integration, and diversity –**

(i) **Officer summary:** Comment states “Stop trying to force cohesion, integration, and diversity”.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be noted that the IIA considers the duties and requirements of the following legislation in order to inform and ensure effective decision making and compliance - Equality Act 2010; Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015; Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

#### 1.43.2 **Wider matters-**

(i) **Officer summary:** The following comments were received: “Make school dinners for all” and “Most “2nd home owners” want to be part of the community they have bought into and to contribute economically, rather being blamed for impoverishing the local residents”

(ii) **Officer response:** In noting the comments received, is not considered that these matters would fall within the remit of the CJC.

### 1.43.3 Clarity and Impact

(i) **Officer summary:** Concerns in regards lack of clarity as to what will be achieved or the envisaged positive impacts that will accrue as a result of the Corporate Plan.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is considered that when read alongside the Corporate Plan itself, the IIA does reflect the wider picture in terms of the CJC's defined functions and responsibilities – along with future ambitions.

## 1.44 Recommended changes to the IIA:

1.44.1 None.

### Welsh Language

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact . What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.45 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan.

#### 1.45.1 Conflicting viewpoints

(i) **Officer summary:** A range of comments were received which are outlined below for ease of reference:

- Stop the rollout of the Welsh language. Double paper work, double signage, how is this helping the planet. Everything we watch and see is in English.
- Economic well being (well-being objective 1): Is that trying to say that Welsh language projects will be preferred ? If so say it.
- Stop forcing people to learn the language. It should be optional.
- The promotion of the Welsh language is less important than providing work and housing opportunities. The language is no longer in danger of being lost and hence does not need significant levels of support from the (limited) public purse.

(ii) **Officer response:** In noting the comments received, the positive impact identified within the IIA reflects the means in which the CJC has embedded the consideration of the Welsh language into its corporate governance framework and via its Corporate Plan. To this end, the pertinent legislative and policy frameworks that apply to the CJC in regards the Welsh language are duly noted, as is the eminence of the language within the social fabric of our communities. In regards the comment on well-being objective 1, the focus of the objective is clear in that it seeks to recognise the CJC's commitment to delivering the REDP and RES.

#### 1.45.2 Specific promotional ideas -

(i) **Officer summary:** Comments received stating: “More education for parents/ young adults to support children attending Welsh schools”. “Have a clear sign in Pubs / Cafes / Restaurants....we speak Welsh by having a Welsh Dragon Badge on the door...and a Welsh Dragon Badge Pin...that shows the establishment and people speak Welsh....so the default isn't English”

(ii) **Officer response:** These comments / suggestions are noted, however it is not considered that these would be within the remit of the CJC itself.

#### 1.46 **Recommended changes to the IIA:**

1.46.1 None.

#### **Biodiversity and the resilience of ecosystems**

*Our integrated impact assessment concludes that the Draft Corporate Plan will have a positive impact . What action will do you think we can take to improve these positive impacts, or do you disagree with the assessment conclusions? If you do disagree – what can we do to mitigate any negative impacts?*

1.47 **Officer response** - A thematic summary of the comments received, together with officer responses in relation thereto, is set out below. As a general point, it is not considered that any of the responses received would change the initial conclusion of a positive impact of the Corporate Plan.

##### 1.47.1 **Agricultural Sector, historic landscape and built heritage -**

(i) **Officer summary:** Disappointment at the exclusion of historic landscape or built heritage which also need preserving for future generations. Also, the lack of reference to the agricultural sector is raised and it is stated that their involvement is key to a biodiverse future.

(ii) **Officer response:** It should be noted that changes are proposed to the Corporate Plan itself which are of relevance to these comments. Reference should be made to paragraphs 1.6.2 and 1.30.1 of this appendix in this regard.

However, it is also considered that the IIA should also be updated to reflect these matters.

##### 1.47.2 **Specific comments**

(i) **Officer summary:** It is suggested that any new building erected by (or for) a public body should come with a carbon report and include travel of goods for construction as this would make developers shop local so to speak to lower their footprint. Another comments states that “restoring and preserving habitats is of course essential, but the plan needs to recognise that there will be some drift in environmental conditions due to global warming. This will cause some inevitable species shift in and out of the region. Working with this rather than trying to stem the tide like king Canute is likely to be more effective.”

(ii) **Officer response:** It is not considered that these comments necessitate a change to the content of the IIA. In regards any implications for the Corporate Plan itself, it

will be a matter for the specific Plans, Policies and Programmes that will follow to consider such matters as appropriate -notably the production of the RTP and SDP.

#### 1.47.3 Energy

(i) **Officer summary:** A comment is also submitted thus “Where is the Welsh Hydrogen plan. More lip service in the Milford Haven energy hub”.

(ii) **Officer response:** It is not considered that this comment necessitates a change to the content of the IIA. In regards any implications for the Corporate Plan itself, it will be a matter for the specific Plans, Policies and Programmes that will follow to consider such matters as appropriate -notably the work of the energy sub-committee under the over-arching policy framework of the RES.

#### 1.47.4 Wording

(i) **Officer summary** Concerns are also expressed that the “wording says nothing realistically about how the needs are to be met”

(ii) **Officer response:** Reference can be made to paragraph 1.38.1 of this appendix in regards deliverability and Involvement. Reference can be made to paragraph 1.34.1 of this appendix in regards participation / involvement / awareness aspects.

### 1.48 Recommended changes to the IIA:

1.48.1 Add in reference to the importance of the historic landscape and built heritage. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/7 in Appendix 3 of this report.

1.48.2 Add in reference to the importance of a sustainable and engaged agriculture sector. Refer to change ref IIA/Ch/8 in Appendix 3 of this report.

## **2. CJC Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee letter**

- 2.1 A copy of a letter sent from the Chair of the sub-committee to the Chair of the CJC is set out below for ease of reference. For information - The Draft Corporate Plan was considered as an agenda item at the sub-committee's meeting of the 23 of February 2023.

*Dear Cllr. Rob Stewart*

**Re: Corporate Joint Committee**

*I am writing to you in your capacity as Chairperson of South West Wales (SWW) Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) at the request of the membership of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee in my capacity as Chairperson of said Sub-Committee.*

*In the last two meetings of our Sub-Committee members have expressed their frustration and lack of clarity about the purpose and benefit of the new regional structure. The CJC appears to be attempting to formalise existing excellent relationships between the member organisations. However, our local authorities have a proven track record of joint working and the duties of the new CJCs appear to be a costly and unnecessary burden which is costing our residents at a time when budgets could not be under more pressure from the ongoing cost of living crisis, brought on by the consequences of several factors including Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.*

*In our last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, the substantive items on the agenda 5, 6 and 7 were the Draft Corporate Plan 2023-2028, The SWW Economic Delivery Plan 2025-2030 and the Regional Transport Plan 2025-2030. In each of them officers and members both noted that the work of the CJC appears to be superfluous since the member organisations already work together on these projects.*

*We appear to have been forced into this by Welsh Government and there is concern that the necessary levels of bureaucracy that the CJC requires does not offer a clear benefit. Whilst future benefits might be in the offing in the future, they are not clear now. At the very least we suggest that we should have more clarity from Welsh Government and if they will insist on this structure, we recommend that they fund the costs directly rather than creating additional burdens on local authorities.*

*I would kindly request that you note our sub-committee's frustration and I ask you to pass this onto the members of SWW CJC and in your ongoing engagement with Welsh Government and Ministers.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Cllr. Russell Sparks*

**Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee**

**Officer response:** (as it applies to the Corporate Plan's content):

2.2 A range of comments are made, including those in regards the purpose and benefit of the new regional structure. Reference is also made to the mandating of the CJC's by the Welsh Government, with points made around matters of resource and accrual of benefit. Whilst these comments are duly noted, and can be subject to wider consideration by the CJC, it is not considered they necessitate any change to the content of the Corporate Plan itself (or indeed the IIA).

**Recommended changes to the Plan / IIA:**

2.3 None.

### 3. Comments from Swansea Bay University Health Board

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
<b>General</b>		<p>The Health Board shares the aspiration set out in the draft corporate plan for people in South West Wales (SWW) to live and work in connected, inclusive and healthy places. There is strong alignment with the Health Board’s own Wellbeing Objectives. Furthermore the alignment with the Health Board’s developing Population Strategy is clear. Consequently at a high level our Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) will undoubtedly correspond well to the plan. These areas should be explored further and in more detail to strengthen our partnership offer and the steps where we could undertake joint working.</p> <p>Swansea Bay’s developing Population Health Strategy has been co-designed with partners and is based on the Marmot principles. Through this co-design process and engagement with a range of partners, the CJC has been identified as a potential mechanism for delivering significant population health impact, with economic development, strategic development planning and regional transport planning all being key drivers of health outcomes at a population level.</p> <p>It is good to see that the corporate plan explicitly describes how greater prosperity that is more equally distributed will lead to better health outcomes. In addition, the plan also recognises how environmental and infrastructure planning and development contributes to more connected and inclusive communities and healthier places.</p> <p>However, we know that both work and living environments in our areas are often far from healthy, which is reflected in the Health Boards Population Health Strategy. We therefore welcome this common and shared focus for action, along with the focus on tackling health and socio-economic inequality and the opportunities this gives us to ensure our plans are aligned.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
		<p>The Health Board recognises the importance of partnerships in delivering improved population health and there is a need to consider how action emerging from the plan will fit with existing delivery requirements &amp; partnerships/system structures at regional and local levels, with a need to build synergy, avoid overburdening those who are working to meet expectations of delivery and breaking down silo working.</p> <p>It was noted that greater consideration of the following areas would be welcomed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years / children and young people- more specific reference to the needs of different population groups and the importance of actions targeted at children and young people in order to maximise population health benefits in the long-term. The needs of children, young people and families across these areas of remit should be considered (e.g. engage with children and families to understand their transport, employment and skills development needs when developing plans).</li> <li>• Mental health and well-being- these plans have the potential to introduce improved mental health and well-being at a population level. Further detail on the data surrounding this and how plans may be able to deliver impact on mental health and well-being would be welcomed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.1 CJC Officer Response:</b> The reference to alignment is welcomed and the CJC can continue to work in partnership as part of a collaborative approach. In noting the specific remit of the CJC, the importance of considering needs and actions in regards early years / children and young people are fully acknowledged and as such it is considered that as the Plans, Policies and Programmes of the CJC develop there will be opportunities to promote an inclusive approach which is founded on engagement. It is considered that the preparation of the RTP and SDP will be heavily influenced by such engagement – including the formulation of a Community Involvement Scheme for the SDP. It is accepted that the Plans of the CJC (notably the RTP and SDP) offer potential to introduce improved mental health and well-being and as such the requirement for dedicated impact assessments to be produced in support of these Plans is noted – with a key component of such policy formulation being a robust evidence base and dataset. The RTP and SDP preparatory processes are underpinned by impact assessments and as such there will be opportunities to review needs in terms of transport, employment and skills development. Reference is made to the established fora in place, including the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership for South West Wales and as such any opportunities to maximise linkages and added values will be taken.</p>		

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
<b>3.2 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.		
<b>2.0 Introducing South West Wales</b>		Further detail would be welcomed around how data and intelligence has been used to inform the plan and strategies, as well as how data or intelligence will inform future planning.
<p><b>3.3 CJC Officer Response:</b> Section 2 of the Corporate Plan seeks to capture and reflect those policy decisions of the CJC to date (notably the REDP and RES), together with an overview of other pertinent policy considerations – including national policy – in the form of Future Wales (SDP) and Llwybr Newydd (RTP). Reference should be made to the content of the REDP and RES in regards the use of data and intelligence in their formulation and it is considered that further information will follow as these Plans turn to implementation (including through the sub-committees). In regards the SDP and RTP, the Plans will be prepared in accordance with guidance and statutory requirements – notably in the form Welsh Government issued guidance / manuals. In noting the high level policy review set out in Section 2 of the Corporate Plan, it is considered that the production of the RTP and SDP – and the delivery of the ambitions already set out within the REDP and SDP – should be predicted upon robust evidence. Such evidence is important in delivering sound plans which meet guidance/regulatory requirements but also provide a locally distinctive framework which addresses those issues that are prevalent to the South West Wales region.</p> <p><b>3.4 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.</p>		
<b>3.0 Our Vision</b>	p17 "It will be a distinctive region that tackles health and socio-economic inequality through sustainable growth."	Whilst sustainable growth has the potential to contribute to improvements in health and reductions in socio-economic inequality, it is worth noting that sustainable growth alone will not tackle health and socio-economic inequality. It would be useful to consider the potential challenges around balancing the needs of social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being in this regard.

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
		<p><b>3.5 CJC Officer Response:</b> The Corporate Plan seeks to provide for an integrated approach where the consideration of a number of factors are acknowledged. Reference should also be made to the content of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA). In noting the specific remit of the CJC, it is considered that the Vision does provide a suitable ‘high level’ hook which acknowledges a wide range of issues in this regard – including social/cultural matters e.g. - reference to the Welsh language, as well as environmental facets.</p> <p><b>3.6 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.</p>
<p><b>4.0 Our Aim and Well-being Objectives</b></p>	<p>Objective 1- To collaboratively deliver the Regional Economic Delivery Plan and Regional Energy Strategy thereby improving the (decarbonised) economic well-being of South West Wales for our future generations.</p>	<p>The first mission is to establish the SWW area as a UK leader in renewable energy and development of a net zero economy which will contribute to mitigating against climate change and will contribute to direct and indirect health benefits. Furthermore, the third mission describes growing and sustaining environmental quality, quality of life and community character. However, while it is recognised that the key challenge is balancing economic, environmental and community sustainability challenges, we would welcome greater consideration of the role of supporting nature recovery within this mission.</p> <p>The plan seeks to build in an ‘inclusive growth model’ although further detail on this would be welcomed.</p> <p>It would be useful to have greater recognition of the importance of making sure pathways and first steps into employment and training that will support economic well-being are easy to find and make and that people who are disadvantaged are supported to stay in work and continue to contribute to the economic well-being of the region.</p> <p>This objective has the potential to help address the issue of multi-generational NEET (not in education, employment or training) in deprived communities. We would encourage consideration of how best to support these communities and reducing inequalities when implementing the plan. This would also support the Vision for South West Wales for 2035 which includes tackling health and socio-economic inequality.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
		<p>Further details on the following would be welcomed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic approaches that will be used, including the role of foundational economy and circular economy approaches.</li> <li>• Further detail on how the plan would lead to improved access to secure, warm, energy efficient and affordable housing, as well as considering those at risk of becoming homeless.</li> <li>• Regarding the energy strategy, how various energy users such as the health board and other organisations are involved in its implementation.</li> <li>• Strategies which will help maximise household incomes and reduce unmanageable debt, understanding root causes so we move from management to prevention &amp; early intervention.</li> <li>• Solutions that recognise that those in the worst position have to pay more for services/facilities or credit.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.7 CJC Officer Response:</b> The Comments relate primary to the content of the REDP and RES. It is noted that these 2 policy frameworks/plans have already been endorsed by the CJC and as such the Corporate Plan seeks to reflect their approval as key policy drivers moving forward. In regards the matters of implementation, it is considered important that an emphasis is placed on encouraging consideration of how best to reduce inequalities when turning the contents into of the overarching Plans and the well-being objectives themselves into action. In this regard, the comments submitted are welcomed and helpful. It is considered that an appropriate fora for such considerations will be the economic and energy sub-committees of the CJC. This can ensure that such matters form part of the implementation phases as and where appropriate.</p> <p><b>3.8 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan/ IIA:</b> None.</p>		
<p><b>4.0 Our Aim and Well-being Objectives</b></p>	<p>Objective 2- To produce a Regional Transport Plan for South West Wales that is</p>	<p>Sustainable travel and transport is one of the top issues raised by the public and patients with the Health Board, particularly as people increasingly travel from one Local Authority (LA) area to another for services. Public transport (especially buses) are not organised on this basis, requiring people to travel to their LA bus station in most cases before being able to catch a bus into another county. The Health Board would therefore welcome the opportunity to influence and engage in discussions on strategic planning for SWW</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
	<p>founded on collaboration and enables the delivery of a transport system which is good for our future generations of people and communities, good for our environment and good for our economy and places.</p>	<p>sustainable travel and transport plans. The stated intention in the report to develop this work through collaboration is welcomed as would be the opportunity for the Health Board to participate strategically in this work to realise alignment opportunities with Changing for the Future and our Clinical Services Plan.</p> <p>The Well-being Objective to produce a Regional Transport Plan which is good for future generations presents an opportunity to improve equal access to employment and good quality work, but it will depend on the plan produced and we would encourage consideration of how it can support the most disadvantaged in society to access employment and good quality work. This would also support the Vision for South West Wales for 2035 which includes tackling health and socio-economic inequality.</p> <p>Further consideration around the link between connected communities and economy would be welcomed, e.g. ensuring individuals can access and afford the systems that enable them to access work, such as childcare provision.</p> <p>A sustainable transport system has the potential to lead to significant population health benefits. It would be useful to explore how the Health Board can best work in collaboration around development of the regional transport plan, especially with data held on staff/patients and the health board's sustainable travel strategy.</p>
<p><b>3.9 CJC Officer Response:</b> The recognition of the importance of sustainable transport welcomed. It is considered that the comments made are relevant to the production of the RTP itself (and potentially for the consideration of the transport sub-committee). In this regard, engagement and consultation will form a key part of RTP production and can allow for such matters to be considered in detail as matters of policy. The suggestion of working in collaboration – particularly in terms of sharing of data – is helpful and would help in the formulation of a robust evidence base to support the RTP.</p> <p><b>3.10 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.</p>		

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
<b>4.0 Our Aim and Well-being Objectives</b>	Objective 3- To produce a sound, deliverable, co-ordinated and locally distinctive Strategic Development Plan for South West Wales which is founded on stakeholder engagement and collaboration and which clearly sets out the scale and location of future growth for our future generations.	<p>In our collective challenge to mitigate and adapt to the risks of climate change as well as tackle the nature emergency, it would be useful to consider the role of planning in harnessing nature-based solutions in capital planning and development. Access to green space is unequally distributed across the social gradient and nature-based solutions can improve health outcomes, air quality, support nature recovery but ultimately contribute to growing and sustaining the SWW ‘experience’ offer.</p> <p>It would useful to consider the role of re-greening as part of planning and supporting nature recovery.</p>
<p><b>3.11 CJC Officer Response:</b> The comments made will be relevant to the production of the SDP itself (and potentially for the consideration of the strategic planning sub-committee). In this regard, the preparation and engagement associated with SDP production will allow for such matters to be considered in detail as matters of planning policy. Reference may also be made to the role of respective LDPs across the region.</p> <p><b>3.12 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.</p>		
<b>5.0 Our Well-being Statement</b>		<p>Clear alignment to the well-being goals and ways of working is welcomed.</p> <p>It would be useful to add further detail which highlights the potential range of direct and indirect benefits to population health from actions within this plan.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
		<p>Further detail on data around ethnicity and other protected characteristics as part of the demographics for the South West Wales area would be welcomed.</p> <p>The environmental sustainability agenda within the plan focusses upon renewable technologies and net zero economy. Further detail would be welcomed on how this investment will be distributed across the social gradient and improve health equity.</p> <p>We would welcome further detail on the sustainability appraisal and how this is assessed, to ensure shared learning and shared approaches across the region.</p> <p>The plan identifies a need to develop a Participation Strategy and a Community Involvement Scheme. The Health Board would welcome the opportunity to be engaged and involved in these developments to maximise areas of added value and minimise any potential duplication.</p>
<p><b>3.13 CJC Officer Response:</b> Comments referring to clear alignment to the well-being goals and ways of working are welcomed. It is accepted that there is an opportunity to clearly reference the potential direct and indirect benefits to population health within the Plan. In regards the comments on data around ethnicity and other protected characteristics as part of the demographics for the South West Wales area, reference should be made to the IIA which accompanied the consultation on the Plan. Furthermore, it is considered that as the work of the CJC matures, a wider appreciation of key data will be required. Reference is made to the commitment to provide Annual Reports as to the progress being made on the well-being objectives. It should be noted that impact / integrated assessments will be developed (e.g. Sustainability Appraisal). As such, there will be an opportunity to feed into the scoping/baseline positions of these, as well as the proposed monitoring frameworks. It is considered that further detail on how investment will be distributed across the social gradient and improve health equity will emerge as the work of the CJC develops, however as part of an integrated approach there will be an emphasis on working collaboratively across the region on such matters – with the role of the Regional Skills Partnership deemed important in this regard.</p>		

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
3.14	<p><b>CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b></p> <p>3.14.1 Insert reference within the ‘A Healthier Wales’ section of Table 1 of paragraph 5.8 of the Corporate Plan to the potential direct and indirect benefits to population health from the actions within the Plan.</p> <p>Refer to change ref CP/Ch/10 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.</p>	
<p><b>6.0 Our Contribution Towards Achieving a More Equal Region</b></p>		<p>The draft corporate plan sets out the intent to develop SWW wellbeing objectives, including an equality objective, with actions to achieve these. To gain the greatest traction for delivery it would be helpful to consider how we collectively achieve alignment of existing wellbeing objectives across SWW and how in future individual organisations refresh these.</p> <p>The CJC plan does not explicitly discuss racism, discrimination or their outcomes, therefore further detail on this would be welcomed.</p> <p>It would be useful to explore the extent to which Health Impact Assessments within the Public Health (Wales) Act could be used to support and enhance existing impact assessments which are already outlined in the plan.</p> <p>The draft plan signs up to the use of the NPT 2 stage Integrated Impact Assessment Toolkit. The Health Board would appreciate the sharing of this documentation with a view to us understanding any potential for aligning our own EIA process when we refresh it in 2023-24 to supporting harmonising the Health Board’s work with that of our Local Authorities as well as SWWCJC. Additionally, there is reference to Integrated Impact Assessments to ensure decisions don’t impact disproportionately negatively, an approach the Health Board is supportive of.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
	<p><b>3.15 CJC Officer Response:</b> Collective alignment of existing wellbeing objectives across SWW will be key if respective ambitions are to be achieved. To this end, the production of the Corporate Plan can be seen as the start of the conversation, however a key challenge for all organisations will be alignment and indeed avoiding repetition. It is agreed that specific reference to a society without racism and discrimination of any kind should be explicit within the equality objective. In regards Health Impact Assessments, such work can be undertaken as appropriate in support of the emerging Duty Plans – most notably the RTP and SDP. The CJC will gladly share its 2 stage IIA toolkit and the support for its usage is welcomed. To this end, it should be noted that the Corporate Plan is accompanied by a full (Stage 2) IIA.</p> <p><b>3.16 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b></p> <p>3.16.1 Insert reference to a society without racism and discrimination of any kind within the equality objective. Refer to change ref CP/Ch/12 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.</p>	
<p><b>7.0 Governance and Operational Facets</b></p>	<p>p32 We have agreed an approach for representatives from the two local health boards that serve our area, along with Swansea and Trinity St David Universities, to be co-opted. We have also agreed an approach for the appointment of private sector representatives to an Advisory Board.</p>	<p>As a co-opted member of the committee, the Health Board welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership with both the committees and sub-committees as appropriate, with collaboration repeatedly stated to be at the very essence of the SWWCJC way of working. The Health Board would welcome further information in respect of this and potential opportunities to engage and support this work.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
<p><b>7.0 Governance and Operational Facets</b></p>		<p>The draft plan represents a level of collaboration between Local Councils which is to be commended. To further facilitate the success of the plan and its impact, the Health Board would welcome opportunities to build on this and explore how continued engagement with wider partners can add further value and benefit for the people of SWW.</p> <p>It is currently unclear in the draft plan how the SWWCJC arrangements fit with RPBs and PSBs, particularly as the SWWCJC is a constituted body in its own right, unlike these other partnerships.</p> <p>The Health Board would also welcome clarification in respect of current representation on the four sub-committees identified in the draft plan; Regional Transport Planning, Economic Well Being, Strategic Development Planning and Economic Well Being.</p>
<p><b>3.17 CJC Officer Response:</b> The Health Board is a valued co-optee to the CJC. The reference to ongoing engagement and collaboration between the Health Board and the CJC is welcomed. Whilst progress has been made in regards confirming the Terms of Reference of the 4 sub-committees, these have not been ‘stood-up’ as at the time of writing and as such when further information emerges this can be shared as and where appropriate. It is accepted that further work can be undertaken in respect of where the CJC ‘fits’ within the broader policy landscape. It should be noted that the establishment for CJC’s was undertaken by the Welsh Government and as such reference may be given to any guidance issued by WG in this regard.</p> <p><b>3.18 CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b> None.</p>		
<p><b>8.0 Public Sector Duties, Plans and Strategies</b></p>	<p>p40 The requirement for us to prepare a Child Poverty Strategy is noted. We will address this as the CJC work activities are further developed.</p>	<p>Poverty is a key population health issue and has emerged as a strong theme within the Population Health Strategy. Poverty has a cumulative negative effect on people’s health throughout their life, which can in turn make it harder to escape poverty. The Health Board note, support and register our interest in the stated intent to develop a Child Poverty Strategy and the value this would add to locally related plans.</p>

Ref.	Wording	SBUHB Comment
<b>8.0 Public Sector Duties, Plans and Strategies</b>		The importance of 'Future Wales' as a key policy for improving population health is recognised. It would also be useful to make reference to other relevant policies which clearly align and have the potential to maximise population health impacts within the CJC through effective integration of policies and strategies, adopting a 'Health in all Policies' approach. This includes Welsh Government's 'A Healthier Wales' as well as the Swansea Bay Population Health Strategy.
<b>8.0 Public Sector Duties, Plans and Strategies</b>		Reducing health inequalities is a theme (Theme 1 or T1) within the Duty Plan. It is noted however that the actions identified at Table 3 could better reflect the breadth of this objective. The Health Board would welcome the opportunity to propose actions for inclusion linked to our Population Health Strategy.
<p>3.19 <b>CJC Officer Response:</b> The comments received in regards poverty are noted. The input of partners is considered to be paramount in the undertaking of the Child Poverty Strategy. The overriding driver for the Biodiversity Duty Plan as set out in Section 8 of the Corporate Plan is to meet the requirements placed upon the CJC under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. It is accepted that the Duty Plan would benefit from a recognition of a 'Health in all Policies' approach, together with reference to the Welsh Government's 'A Healthier Wales' as well as the Swansea Bay Population Health Strategy as part of engendering an integrated approach.</p> <p>3.20 <b>CJC Officer recommended Changes to the Corporate Plan / IIA:</b>  3.20.1 Insert reference to a 'Health in all Policies' approach within the Biodiversity Duty Plan - having reference to the Welsh Government's 'A Healthier Wales' Plan as well as the Swansea Bay Population Health Strategy.  Refer to change ref CP/Ch/15 in Appendix 2, Table 1 of this report.</p>		