

Pembrokeshire Public Services Board
Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Sir Benfro



MINUTES OF PEMBROKESHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD
Tuesday 16th July 2024 at 10.00am (Microsoft Teams meeting)

Present

Cllr. Neil Prior	Cabinet Member for Communities, Corporate Improvement and the Well-being of Future Generations, PCC (Chair)
Cllr. Jon Harvey	Leader of Council, PCC
Cllr. John Davies	PCC
Libby Taylor	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Ben Williams	Principal Public Health Practitioner, Hywel Dda
Darren Thomas	Head of Infrastructure, PCC
Barry Walters	Principal, Pembrokeshire College
Vikki Butler	Co-production Network for Wales
Sue Leonard	Chief Officer, PAVS
Caroline Drayton	Operations Manager, NRW
Claire Germain	Deputy Director for Local Government Transformation and Partnerships, Welsh Government
Robyn Collip	NGDP Graduate, PCC
Yovieta Andrews	NGDP Graduate, PCC
James White	Head of Engagement, Performance and Community, PCC (arr. 10:15)
Tom Moses	One Voice Wales (arr. 10:23)

Observing

Joanne Hobson RNID

Support/secretariat

Nick Evans Corporate Policy and Partnerships Manager, PCC (arr. 10:28)

Lynne Richards Corporate Partnerships Officer, PCC

Rachael Rimmer Corporate Policy Support Officer, PCC

Amy Richmond-Jones Engagement, Planning and Performance Manager, MAWWFRS

Apologies

Mydrian Harries MAWW Fire and Rescue Service

Darren Mutter Head of Children's Services, PCC

Will Bramble Chief Executive, PCC

Linda Jones West Wales Regional Partnership Board

Tegyrn Jones Chief Executive, PCNPA

Alison Perry Director of Commissioning, OPCC

Anna Malloy Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager, Port of Milford Haven

Iwan Thomas Chief Executive Officer, PLANED

Rhian Bennett Senior Commissioning Manager, PCC

The meeting commenced at 10:06am

1. Welcome and Apologies

NP welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from those listed above.

The agenda was altered slightly. Agenda point 5 would be discussed first, and agenda point 3 would be covered as part of the well-being project plan updates.

2. Minutes of the last meeting / Action Log

The minutes of the last meeting were recorded as accurate, and all actions had been completed.

3. Co-production Network Wales – Project Dewi and work within the region

VB gave a presentation to the group on Co-production Network Wales's 'Project Dewi'. This was circulated as part of the meeting's agenda pack.

SL questioned how many days of support are being given per County, and how much of this is joint work versus regional work. VB stated that regional work is conducted in areas such as training, or in relation to the health board where the work has a wider footprint. She noted that individual work is conducted in circumstances where it is more place-based or has a hyper local context. VB also clarified that support is provided on basis of need, rather than as a set number of days. She noted that per consultant, 50 days per year are provided.

BW questioned whether support for the healthy weight agenda is linked with Pembrokeshire. VB stated that that this work is cross-regional, including Swansea Bay and Neath Port Talbot, but does not currently include Pembrokeshire. NP noted that there is a potential connection to be made here.

NP asked VB to clarify where Project Dewi has worked well. VB expressed that work has been useful in supporting well-being assessments, and in ensuring local focus groups have occurred and that young people's voices are heard. It has also worked well in relation to training, and has supported networking and signposting. VB also noted that the Co-Production Network are members of the Climate and Poverty sub-groups of the PSB. Within the poverty group particularly, they have helped to co-facilitate the new lived experience sub-group.

SL noted that PAVS have recently nominated some Co-Production Champions, and questioned whether this is part of Project Dewi. VB confirmed that this is part of wider Co-Production Network membership, rather than Project Dewi.

4. Well-being Plan Project updates

Strengthening Communities

YA gave an update on work for the Strengthening Communities project:

- Keeping Well Roadshows have continued, and positive feedback has been received from those participating. There has been a lot of feedback from the voluntary and community sectors, who have noted that the events are great for networking.

- A Social Enterprising Network event was held in June, although PCC staff were unable to attend due to the event being held during the election period. Overall, feedback for this event was positive.
- 22 people have been trained under the Most Significant Change (MSC) methodology, a technique of gathering qualitative data that evidences change. They have been asked to produce stories that panel groups will then evaluate, before choosing which is the most significant. The information gathered from this will be escalated back to the Strengthening Communities operational and strategic groups, and an update will be provided to the PSB at a future meeting.
- Additional engagement capacity has been created within PAVS through SPF funding.
- Co-production workshops were held in June and July, with more planned in the near future.
- 5 key priorities have been identified for 2024/25, and work has begun in this space.

SL added that whilst it was unfortunate that local authority colleagues were unable to attend the Social Enterprise Network in June, around 70-80 people from 55 different organisations were present. She also highlighted that, along with CWMPAS, PAVS have been involved in supporting social enterprise in Northeast Pembrokeshire, with the potential to take over a day centre there. She noted that there is a need to conduct engagement and co-production work for this with staff, parents, carers and the wider community, and that it would be useful for VB to be involved in this work. For engagement work, SL stated that 21 hours a week of additional capacity in PAVS has been funded until the end of March, but that there is also some SPF funding to pay for additional engagement expertise until December. She also discussed that they are interested in doing some work for community plans and profiles.

VB expressed that it would be useful to have some presence in the Strengthening Communities sub-group in order to support work going on in related projects.

The following action was agreed:

- Link VB/Mereriid Lewis with Rhian Bennett regarding membership of the Strengthening Communities sub-group.

Environment themed projects

i) Overview

DT gave an update on environment themed projects:

- DT noted that he has recently taken over as the Chair of the NDC sub-group, and thanked CD for leading the group to date.
- The PSB needs to decide what core topic areas it wants the sub-group to cover moving forward, as the current remit of the group is fairly wide.
- Budgets and officer capacity are tight for most organisations, so the group needs to consider how the work will be undertaken during these circumstances.
- The current scope of the group needs to be distilled into a few key priorities, to identify what can realistically be delivered from the well-being plan in the medium term.
- Under CD's leadership of the NDC sub-group, the Climate Adaptation Strategy and the LAEP were put into place. Less progress was made on a Strategy for Nature Recovery due to a lack of resources.

ii) Biodiversity and the Nature Emergency

- Securing the capacity to deliver the Biodiversity and Nature Emergency project is a major issue due to a lack of resources.

- It will be more productive to ask the Project Lead for this theme to focus on a couple of priorities, rather than attempt to tackle the entire project area.
- Hywel Dda have provided a few opportunities for work that could be picked up under this project, such as linking in with the Nature Am Byth project.

iii) Climate Adaptation

- 39 climate priorities and 24 key actions have been identified for Pembrokeshire under the Climate Adaptation Strategy. Work may only focus on one or two of these actions due to ongoing capacity and resource pressures.
- Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum (PCF) are conducting a review to identify whether any of these actions have already been completed, as it is likely that more has been done than is visible.

iv) Decarbonisation and Net Zero

- Focus has been on the delivery of carbon literacy training, but this has stalled in recent months due to changes in personnel.
- Regional work is ongoing for the production of LAEPs. Pembrokeshire's is already in place, but other counties are now producing their own. A workshop will take place in July to develop and take forward a work plan for this.

CD added that Emma Taylor was due to meet with the Strengthening Communities Operational Group, although the meeting was postponed. As such, work is ongoing to create a link between environment and communities' work.

JH highlighted that the group needs to concentrate on what can realistically be achieved for environment projects. He suggested that the group could tap in to work PCNPA have been undertaking, as this had been widely positive across the board. He also noted that whilst smaller scale projects don't seem like they have a big impact, they massively improve people's livelihood. JH emphasised that the group needs to break bigger projects such as Biodiversity and Net Zero into smaller chunks that can be delivered more easily.

TM noted that there are 78 town and community councils in Pembrokeshire, and that they are a significant resource that is underused. He added that more needs to be done to unlock this sector of work and get people aware and motivated.

SL expressed that work with communities about their community well-being plans will likely bring out actions relating to biodiversity. She discussed that people value green spaces in their communities, and that a swell of small local activities can collectively make a difference in the local area. She also highlighted that it is more helpful to get people involved in this work in places that are familiar to them. SL noted that there are a lot of community groups around that could be brought together as a network of focused organisations. She stated that some kind of deliberative democracy framework could be utilised by PSB partners to focus on areas of commonality. TM expressed that a county wide network for people involved in environmental volunteering has been discussed in the past, although there was no capacity to develop this at the time. He stated that this could be beneficial to look at if organisations are able to free up capacity to co-ordinate this.

NP concluded that pieces of work being done by the PSB should complement each other, rather than adding to existing burden. He noted that there is a lot of small-scale work going on in communities, and that the PSB needs to support this through engaging with community groups, without taking control. JH echoed that the PSB needs to avoid a top-down bureaucratic approach and allow communities to make progress without trying to co-ordinate

their work. NP suggested that a future spotlight session for environment projects could focus on two key priorities and how they link in with community work.

DT expressed that the PSB could look into pulling together information on what is happening in the community space, and share this information to demonstrate progress and best practice. He also noted that from these discussions, it seems that PSB colleagues are interested in focusing on the nature emergency side of environment work. However, this is still a large agenda that could be refined further.

Poverty project

JW gave an update on the Poverty project:

- In the last Poverty Working Group meeting, members who will be present at the County Show discussed how value could be added by bringing along a voluntary sector organisation that is working towards the poverty agenda. He noted that it costs several hundred pounds for a stall at the show, and that if partners would be attending anyway, it would be worthwhile to give this space to organisations to help them gather donations and spread awareness about their work.
- Work is ongoing for a bid for Welsh Government funding relating to child poverty. There is potentially £25,000 available until March 2025, which could be utilised to add capacity to lived experiences work.
- The Poverty Strategy is in place, and a monitoring structure has been established for this. The Strategy is now in the delivery phase.

The group were generally in agreement that bringing voluntary sector organisations to the County Show would be a positive step.

LR questioned whether there is a wider role to work with individuals running local Youth Forums and discuss how groups can engage with young people. The following action was agreed:

- LR will link with contacts in local Youth Forums to determine the best way for the PSB to engage with young people

5. AOB

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 11:25am.

Action Log

No.	Pg.	Action	Target date	Owner	Resolution
1	3	Link VB/Merered Lewis with Rhian Bennett regarding membership of the Strengthening Communities sub-group.	Next meeting	LR	Completed
2	5	Link Co-Production Wales with contacts in local Youth Forums	Next meeting	LR	Completed