



MINUTES OF PEMBROKESHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD
Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 10.00am (Microsoft Teams meeting)

Present

Cllr. Neil Prior	PCC (Chair)
Ardiana Gjini	Executive Director of Public Health, Hywel Dda UHB
Darren Mutter	Head of Children's Services, PCC (left approx. 11am)
Caroline Drayton	Operations Manager, NRW
David Evans	Vice Principal, Pembrokeshire College
John Evans	County Director (Pembs.), Hywel Dda UHB
Alison Perry	Director of Commissioning, OPCC
Mydrian Harries	Assistant Chief Officer- Director of Resources, MAWWFRS
Tegryn Jones	Chief Executive, PCNPA
Sue Leonard	Chief Officer, PAVS
Claire Germain	Deputy Director for Local Government Transformation and Partnerships, Welsh Government
Vikki Butler	Co-production Network for Wales (left 12.15pm)
Steve Keating	Energy and Sustainability Manager, PCC
Ant Rogers	Biodiversity Implementation Officer, PCC
Emma Taylor	People and Places Officer, NRW

Support/secretariat

Nick Evans	Corporate Policy and Partnerships Manager, PCC
Lynne Richards	Corporate Partnerships Officer, PCC
Rachael Rimmer	Corporate Policy Support Officer, PCC

Apologies

Will Bramble	Chief Executive, PCC
Richard Brown	Assistant Chief Executive, PCC
Michael Gray	Director of Social Care and Housing, PCC
Phil Kloer	Interim CEO, Hywel Dda UHB
Linda Jones	WW Regional Partnership Board
Cllr. John Davies	Vice-Chair MAWW Fire Authority
Supt. Craig Templeton	Dyfed Powys Police
Barry Walters	Principal, Pembrokeshire College
Iwan Thomas	Chief Executive, PLANED

The meeting commenced at 10:01

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting / Action Log

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26th September 2023 were recorded as accurate.

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed.

3. Well-being Plan ‘Spotlight’ session – Environment Themed Projects

NP invited CD to introduce the spotlight session for environment themed projects. CD noted that she would be joined by AR, SK and ET to give these updates. She highlighted that a key theme had arisen around invest to save, as there are extraordinary constraints and budget pressures around the resources that are needed to deliver projects. She asked all members to consider how the PSB can add value and reap benefits for all.

Biodiversity and the nature emergency

CD invited AR to introduce the biodiversity and nature emergency project. AR explained that whilst projects have been opportunistic, they are not coordinated well among PSB members.

To indicate progress, AR referred the two headline biodiversity actions from the well-being plan. He highlighted that the PSB is not performing as well in raising the profile of biodiversity considering the role partners have in tackling the nature crisis.

However, he stated that we are making more progress in working collaboratively to deliver actions identified in the Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Pembrokeshire. To illustrate some positive progress being made, AR introduced various projects that are being undertaken by the Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership (PNP). He gave a brief explanation of each project to the group, and explained what benefits these are having. He also gave an update on the Plant Pembrokeshire project, in which a tree is planted for every child born or adopted into a Pembrokeshire family. Around 6,500 trees have been planted as part of this project so far, and it has just been adopted by the Welsh Government.

AR also discussed some of the current problems affecting biodiversity and the nature emergency in Pembrokeshire. He discussed that a key area of concern is that there is fragmentation of remaining habitats across the Pembrokeshire landscape. He also highlighted how the recent State of Nature report reflected that Pembrokeshire is still losing biodiversity, and that pressures causing this decline, such as urbanisation and pollution, have not been adequately addressed.

AR emphasised the importance of not seeing economy and society as separate to nature, but rather to acknowledge that they are embedded within it. He highlighted that there is a need to look at the long term global risks, and referred to the World Economic Forum data on global risk perceptions. This reflects that climate concerns are projected to be the most important issue over the next ten years.

AR noted that he has received an indicative quote of £12k from an experienced consultant to develop an action plan, and that this would require each PSB member

to provide a £1k contribution so that this could be taken forward. His current role means that he does not have the capacity to undertake this task himself and without a delivery plan the work will not be able to move forward. AR also asked that PSB members review their representatives named as PSB Plan contacts as there was some confusion regarding roles and responsibilities on sub-groups.

DE said that Pembrokeshire College would be able to provide a contribution of £1k and SL said that she would ask the PAVS Board at their next meeting whether this was something that they could commit to. AG also said that she supported this as a way forward but would have to check with colleagues whether this was possible. TJ noted that raising £12k to develop a detailed delivery plan would be a good investment in order to lever in additional funding to deliver the project.

As a next step, AR discussed taking forward the following actions:

- To secure capacity to move forward with the development of a Nature Recovery Action Plan for Pembrokeshire PSB
- To review nominated contacts for each PSB member and strengthen commitment to collaborative working

NP invited the group to discuss the updates given. MH described how change needs to start on a wider political level, and questioned how other organisations or sectors in Pembrokeshire may fit within the issues discussed. AR highlighted that a balance between addressing the nature emergency and supporting agriculture needs to be found. MR expressed that they are trying to find a similar balance in regard to tourism, by trying to encourage people to visit the county whilst managing the impact they have on nature. AG also discussed how this tourism lens in Pembrokeshire makes our approach different to other counties. TJ emphasised that the nature emergency is often misunderstood by people, and that this could be a good opportunity to engage with decision makers in each organisation to highlight the importance of the message. AR agreed that it is more difficult to understand the nature emergency, as it is harder to give it a monetary value. DE stated that he is keen to help support biodiversity and nature emergency projects. SL emphasised the importance of working collaboratively with people in communities and bringing in ideas from local people. AR stated that this is a matter of capacity and resource.

AR sent the presentation slides to LR for circulation to the group.

Decarbonisation and net zero

CD introduced SK to discuss the decarbonisation and net zero projects. He discussed two key projects: carbon literacy training and the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP).

SK discussed how a poll had been taken across PSB members to identify who has had carbon literacy training. PCC and the National Park were the only two that had not developed their own carbon literacy training, so this was pushed forward and funded in partnership with Cynnal Cymru. Since this new training has been developed, 15 members of PCC and the National Park have now trained and can apply for carbon literacy accreditation to train further members. SK expressed that

this training was developed as something generic for Pembrokeshire that can be shared to other organisations. He stated that when the final version of the slides were available, this would be shared with PSB members. SK also discussed the new e-learning modules that had been developed by Swansea Bay. He stated that these would be shared with individual organisations.

SK also expressed that the Pembrokeshire LAEP is now complete, and that Pembrokeshire is the third local authority in Wales to have completed a plan. He stated that this would eventually be shared more widely, but that there is not enough resource to do this yet. SK confirmed that the LAEP would be circulated to this group following the meeting. He emphasised that as the plan takes into account the whole county, the community, voluntary and private sectors would also be involved in delivery. He also stated that the Welsh Government have agreed to fund three new posts in the Swansea Bay region to drive the LAEP forward.

TJ expressed that the benefit of carbon literacy training is that everyone speaks the same language. He suggested that members of the PSB could have a session in carbon literacy training, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to understand the language being used. SK suggested that perhaps the slides could be shared for people to look at in their own time.

NP asked what support is needed from the PSB in taking the LAEP forward. SK stated that as the LAEP will be continually updated to address changing situations, the PSB would be a constant source of support during this process. He also expressed that if there are particular obstacles that can be solved by collective action, these would be brought back to the PSB. NP highlighted the importance of providing more information to the PSB on how it can best offer its support.

Climate adaptation

CD invited ET to discuss project updates for climate adaptation. ET indicated that Pembrokeshire was in a relatively good position as we already have a co-produced, five year climate adaptation strategy. However, there is still significant work needed to drive and co-ordinate the implementation of the strategy. ET also described how 39 climate change risk priorities have been identified in Pembrokeshire, but that these are currently not ranked or prioritised in any way. She highlighted how the new NRW framework and its methodology could help support the prioritisation of these risks. ET described how one particular barrier has been identifying resources to progress this work.

Generally, ET identified that there needs to be a wider focus on climate in other areas of work. For example, there is a need to consider climate work when focusing on strengthening communities. She indicated that current work seems to focus on the social needs of the moment without an appreciation of how climate work helps contribute to solutions. She also emphasised that trying to address societal issues in the short term, without appreciation for climate work, will prevent long-term solutions from being made.

ET asked the group to consider how PSB members can reorganise their resources to adapt to the risks being faced. She also emphasised the importance of identifying

communities we can work with on the ground to address social, economic and environmental needs within the community.

CD discussed that whilst there is a lot of enthusiasm behind the work outlined in the Well-being Plan, there is a need to come up with a realistic way that the PSB can deliver it, as it is currently not clear where the PSB has made a fundamental difference to what would have happened anyway. AR emphasised that if the group can find the resource to get the strategy in place, it could be used to help draw in additional funding.

4. Well-being Plan Project updates

Poverty:

- The poverty summit has been arranged for the 14th February 2024 at Pembrokeshire College. Arrangements are currently being made for speakers for the event. Attendees will be asked to make commitments and pledges on the day in relation to organisational activity.
- In regard to the action plan monitoring template, a more comprehensive draft spreadsheet has now been made. This will be the new monitoring tool for the action plan going forwards, and is being taken to the next poverty group meeting for final edits and sign off.
- There is no additional cost of living money for the Keep Warm Keep Well programme this year.
- DM referred to the UCL cost of living report. This focused strongly on intersectionality, and advocated for recognition that people's characteristics and personal factors may impact on levels of poverty.
- DM will send the Wales expert group report to LR to be circulated to the group. This report highlighted that strategic, long-term changes are required to ensure that cost of living is not persistent in the future.

Strengthening Communities:

- The CCRG is now the Strengthening Communities Board, and is the new bronze level group for the PSB. It has taken a look at the actions set out in the well-being plan, and wants to refine these further.
- SL provided updates on the conferences held on 19th and 25th of October. These conferences were found to be very useful, and the reports written as a result will help to steer work going forward.
- If the current funding bid is successful, it will bring additional resource for a year to act for community profiling and community engagement.

5. MAWW Fire Service Community Risk Management Plan 2040

MH described how the MAWW Fire Service are currently consulting on their draft Community Risk Management Plan 2040. The previous plan was viewed as confusing in terms of staff engagement, and so it was agreed to make one focused strategy with a set of objectives that can adhere to one clear vision. There are currently eight draft improvement and well-being objectives as part of the new strategy. MH gave a brief explanation of each, and invited members to give their feedback by taking part in the consultation. The consultation is open for 10 weeks,

and will be closing on 15th January 2024. MH will distribute this consultation to the group.

6. Gorwel update

LR highlighted the delays to the Gorwel system being delivered. However, she noted that there is a new regional co-ordinator in place who will be attending the next PSB, to give a demonstration of the system. NP noted that a demonstration of the system may be more useful at the silver or bronze level, rather than to the whole PSB. NE explained that this system has been in development for a number of years, and the PSB needs to consider how it will be used moving forward. He described how the system will help the PSB understand data about well-being across the county, but the usefulness of this will depend on how the PSB chooses to utilise the data.

SL indicated that the system will be useful to PSB work, and will also link to the engagement work for communities. She highlighted how it will assist communities in their own planning endeavours at the local level. She also discussed how it could be linked with WISERD as another place to receive data, but noted that we don't want data coming in from too many different sources. CG agreed that the system could be useful at the silver level, and in well-being spotlight sessions.

7. AOB

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 12:19pm

Action Log

No.	Pg.	Action	Target date	Owner	Resolution
1	2	Secure capacity to move forward with the development of a Nature Recovery Action Plan for Pembrokeshire PSB members	Next meeting	AR	
2	3	Review nominated WB Plan contacts for each PSB member on sub-groups	Next meeting	ALL	
3	3	Circulate the biodiversity and nature emergency slides	ASAP	LR	Complete
4	3	Circulate the LAEP	ASAP	SK	
5	4	Circulate the Wales Expert Group report	ASAP	LR (when received)	
6	5	Distribute the MAWW Fire Service Community Risk Management Plan 2040 consultation	ASAP	MH	Complete