

# PSB Project Group Report

Prepared by: Kieran Metson & Sara Dafydd

<b>Well-being Plan Aim</b>	All place-based pilot projects will aim to address the 6 well-being aims as outlined in the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan 2018-23. A place-based delivery framework will prioritise integration and will incorporate a deep-dive holistic approach to both community and individual resilience.
<b>Our Values</b>	Welsh Language, Tackling Inequalities, Involvement, Sustainability, Leading by Example.
<b>Project Group Name</b>	Improving Community Wellbeing and Tackling Hardship in Cardigan
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Hazel Lloyd-Lubran</b> , Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO)

<b>Project Group Membership</b> <i>(Names in <b>bold</b> signify attendance at meeting)</i>			
Ceredigion County Council	<b>Cllr Elaine Evans</b> , Llyr Hughes, Cyra Shimell, Non Davies, Meleri Richards, Mari Hopkins, Rob Starr, <b>Carys Owens</b> , Cerys Purches-Phillips, Martin Gillard, Catrin George, <b>Catrin Cond</b> , <b>Alison Heal</b> , Dr Sarah Groves Phillips, Connor Cook, <b>Bethan James</b> , Partnerships Team: <b>Naomi McDonagh</b> , <b>Sara Dafydd</b> , Lynne Walters, <b>Kieran Metson</b>	Wales & West Housing	Rhiannon Ling, Elizabeth Morgan
		Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations	<b>Chesca Ross</b>
Hywel Dda University Health Board	Vicki Howell-Williams, <b>Sue John</b> , <b>Terri-Ann Patrick</b>	Ben Lake's Office	Carys Lloyd
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service	William Bowen, Neil Evans, <b>Ritchie Felton</b>	Natural Resources Wales	Thomas Vetter, <b>Aled Davies</b> , <b>Rachel Jarvis</b> ,

			Peter Frost, <b>Sarah Coakham</b>
Barcud Ceredigion	Catrin Owen, <b>Sue Thomas</b>	Public Health Wales	Megan Harris, <b>Jan Batty</b>
CAB Ceredigion	Glynis Llewelyn, Rebecca Kirby, Juliet Morris	Land Use Consultants	Nicole Gilbert

## SYNOPSIS OF PROJECT GROUP MEETING

### Key Points discussed at Project Group meeting: 05/01/2023

**9.1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies:** Carys Lloyd, Catrin Owen, Catrin George, Glynis Llywelyn, Juliet Morris, Meleri Richards, Non Davies, Sarah Groves-Phillips, Emily Edwards, Cerys Purches-Phillips, Martin Gillard, Vicki Howell-Williams.

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the Steering Group meeting.

### **9.2 Scene Setting: PSB feedback, Census Updates 2021, Shared Prosperity Fund Update, Warm Hubs, and Local Bus Network.**

The Chair reported that the Growing Mid Wales Partnership have received confirmation that funding has been approved for this financial year regarding the Shared Prosperity Fund. Whilst the allocation for this year will be used to support Local Authority funding, an application process for Expression of Interest (external to Ceredigion County Council) will be made available in due course. The Chair confirmed that the group will be kept informed of any developments.

The Chair provided an update on the discussions held at the Public Services Board (PSB) meeting regarding the challenges of bus provision in the county. There have been limited responses to tenders from bus service providers, leading to concerns regarding provision and public access to services with routes already heavily subsidised. The Chair proposed that Shared Prosperity Funding might allow for this area of work to be considered as a funded project in the future. Cllr Elaine Evans (EE) confirmed that limited bus provision is proving a significant problem in Cardigan, specifically in gaining access to the Health Centre and school bus coverage across certain estates. The Chair confirmed that this feedback would be relayed at the next PSB meeting.

**ACTION: Naomi McDonagh (NMc) to liaise with Gareth Lewis (Deprivation and Rural Challenges Co-ordinator, Ceredigion County Council) and Emily Edwards (Cardigan Community Partnership Manager, Ceredigion County Council) regarding school bus coverage.**

It was confirmed that there are currently over 50 of the Warm Welcome Spaces across Ceredigion, and the [interactive map](#) continues to be regularly updated.

### **9.3 Standing Item - Local Wellbeing Plan and Public Consultation Update – Naomi McDonagh**

NMc reported that the consultation phase for the draft Local Wellbeing Plan is still ongoing, and will come to a close on 31 January 2023. With regards to engagement, NMc reported that a Press Release and social media posts have gone out with an additional round scheduled for 17 January 2023, relevant webpages including the Consultations site on the Ceredigion County Council webpage has been updated, and Public Services Board colleagues have received a copy of a digital pack of resources for sharing with their respective Communications Teams. A total of 32 stakeholders have been contacted promoting the consultation and requesting distribution amongst their networks, including elected members and Town & Community Councils.

Paper copies of the draft Plan, response forms, Easy Read and Young Peoples versions as well as posters with QR codes are also available at all Ceredigion libraries, including the mobile library vans. Paper copies of the consultation documents have also been circulated to Mirus and Mencap. An engagement event facilitated by the Co-production Network for Wales was held with 13 primary schools and 3 secondary schools, with excellent feedback received. NMc confirmed that child friendly versions of the feedback are in the process of being produced and that these documents could be shared with the sub-group once complete. The consultation was also promoted at an LGBTQ+ Winter Pride Event held in Carmarthenshire. Alison Heal (AH) enquired as to which LGBTQ+ groups were engaged with the Winter Pride event, and raised concerns as to whether the older LGBTQ+ community would have been aware that it was taking place. It was agreed that NMc would share further details on the event with AH.

**ACTION: NMc to circulate the feedback received as part of the schools' engagement sessions with the sub-group.**

**ACTION: NMc to share details of the Winter Pride event with AH.**

### **9.4 Update on Projects to Develop Cardigan Town in Conjunction with the Town Council – Catrin George**

As apologies were recorded for Catrin George (CG), there was no update provided.

**ACTION: CG to provide an update on Projects to Develop Cardigan Town in Conjunction with the Town Council at the next meeting.**

### **9.5 Cardigan Place Plan and Green Infrastructure Plan – Catrin Cond**

An update on the Place Plan for Cardigan was provided by Catrin Cond (CC). Rural Office have been commissioned until the end of March to formulate A1 schematic maps of each of Ceredigion's 6 main towns based on the ideas included in the Place Plans. As most progress had been made in Llandysul, CC confirmed that Rural Office have shared a draft based on the ideas included in

Llandysul's Place Plans, and that this will be reviewed and feedback sent by the middle of January. Once Rural Office have reviewed comments by the Planning Policy Team, the documents will be shared with each Town Council for consideration of any identified gaps. Depending on Town Councils' capacity for turnaround, CC reported that it is hoped that the Team will then be in a position to incorporate their feedback and return a completed draft to them.

With regards to the Green Infrastructure Plan, CC confirmed that in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework, WSP were commissioned to prepare a Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA) in 2020 to inform the replacement Local Development Plan (LDP). The Assessment provided an audit of green infrastructure assets, identified potential opportunities for green infrastructure, as well as outlining recommendations to inform policies in the replacement LDP. As a supplementary piece of work, Land Use Consultants (LUC) were commissioned to build on the aforementioned Assessment by preparing Green Infrastructure Action Plans for the County's 6 main towns, with the aim of supporting town centre regeneration. Following research and consultation, LUC have identified 5 potential Green and Blue Infrastructure projects for each of the towns. Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) refers to the network of green and blue spaces in and around rural and urban areas, and has 4 key principles: making space for nature, shaping thriving public spaces, creating happy and healthy communities and strengthening resilience to climate change.

The GI Action Plans set out the purpose of the potential projects, key partners for delivery and costs involved. Whilst the Action Plans include recommended 'strategic design' principles should the projects be undertaken; additional design detail and feasibility studies will be required to enable project delivery. CC reinforced that Ceredigion County Council are not necessarily advancing with the projects outlined, nor is there guaranteed funding available in order for the proposals to progress – The aim of the Action Plans is to provide an initial level of information for interested parties who wish to take some of these projects forward, and require supporting information as part of the funding bid process. The 5 projects put forward for Cardigan are as below:

Project 1: The Aberteifi Otter Walk

The aim of this project is to improve connection with the river Teifi, increase the biodiversity through riverside planting and boost the quality of green space along the riverfront and to encourage walking to local green spaces. Through enhancing the ribbon of green spaces along the river (Prince Charles Quay, the Strand and Quay Street car park), the project looks to maximise opportunities to create green connections.

Project 2: 'Bwyd i Bawb' Community Food Growing

This project aims to encourage community food growing and sharing, and to create a cheerful network of edible planting through the town centre and more deprived neighbourhoods. The 4CG car park has been considered as a possible location.

### Project 3: Netpool Orchard and Riverside

The focus of this project is to increase biodiversity and expand the range of community uses at Netpool Park.

### Project 4: Mwldan Wetland

This project looks to improve the health of the Mwldan river corridor, to create a wetland habitat to improve biodiversity and to reduce flood risk in Aberteifi. The wetland could also be used as a wellbeing resource for the local community.

### Project 5: Greening Aberteifi Town Centre

This project aims to introduce nature-rich planting features through Aberteifi's town centre that will connect biodiversity and tree cover and improve the experience of moving through and using the town.

Elaine Evans (EE) suggested The Strand could be the location of a community garden for the partially sighted, which could also tie in with NRW's flood defence work in this area. RJ supported this idea, and agreed to make enquiries within NRW as to updates regarding The Strand.

## **9.6 Proposed Approach by NRW to the Well-being Plan Consultation – Rachel Jarvis**

Rachel Jarvis (RJ) delivered a presentation on Natural Resources Wales' (NRW) consultation and approval process. As the NRW Board need to approve and sign-off 14 PSB Wellbeing Plans across Wales, a national framework to steer consultation responses and make clear recommendations to the PSBs was devised. A copy of the draft response was circulated to group members for their consideration prior to the meeting, and any comments, questions or feedback was welcomed. RJ explained that the response was structured using NRW's National Framework, and that 5 key categories have been utilised in order to review each of the Wellbeing Objectives. The approach aims to facilitate the process of approving the Plan by the NRW Board, and ensure that the organisation, alongside partners, are able to deliver on the aims and objectives outlined.

An overview of the draft response was delivered by RJ, including NRW Feedback, Aspirations for Future Well-being Plan Delivery and NRW Contributions against each proposed Objective. AH raised concerns around aligning the Wellbeing Plan with the Mid-Wales Growth Deal (MWGD), and reflected that the opportunities outlined in the Plan for a greener Ceredigion are more ambitious than that of the MWGD. There was feedback provided with regards to the terminology used in some areas of the response, and the Chair noted the importance of ensuring that the language is appropriate for both the PSB and NRW Board, as well as the people of Ceredigion. There was extensive discussion around the reference to water quality and phosphate pollution. It was agreed that the umbrella term of water quality would be retained, as this would also allow consideration of other issues relating to water such as the

marine environment. RJ reported that NRW would be well placed to take the lead on a Climate Risk and Opportunity Assessment to inform how to progress a targeted approach for delivery for climate adaptation within Ceredigion.

RJ confirmed that once the 3 PSB sub-groups have had an opportunity to reflect on the draft response and put forward any queries and feedback, that the document will be amended and submitted as a final response to the PSB.

### **9.7 Resilient Communities Mid Wales Funded Projects – Aled Davies and Sarah Coakham**

Aled Davies (AD) and Sarah Coakham (SC) shared a presentation on grant funded projects focused on building resilient communities by increasing community participation in nature to increase health, well-being and resilience. Following on from the Area Statements published in March 2020, AD reported that focus has evolved to reflect upon post-pandemic priorities for the environment across Mid Wales, specifically enabling and empowering communities to develop their own resilience as well as support new ideas around developing Nature Based Solutions. As part of the NRW grant application process, applicants were asked to consider PSB Wellbeing Plans and Wellbeing Assessment to understand the specific issues and priorities within their local communities.

There are 2 mid (Ceredigion and Powys) funded projects – Tir Coed's AnTir project, and The Outdoor Partnership / Y Bartneriaeth Awyr Agored. Tir Coed's AnTir project connects to the Area Statement's main theme of Reconnecting People and Places through collaboration, social prescribing and developing the evidence base for health impacts. The project also aims to deliver improved wellbeing, skills, community engagement, nature connection and awareness of climate change for people not usually engaged in nature in Ceredigion and Powys. AD indicated that Coed Lleol would be willing to attend a meeting in the future to present additional information on the AnTir project.

The Outdoor Partnership / Y Bartneriaeth Awyr Agored looks to upskill outdoor, health and social care professionals to engage with people with various physical and mental health care issues. The intervention programmes plan to take groups into outdoor settings in a safe and responsible way, and aims to contribute towards long-term behavioural change in order to reduce dependence on health services, improve connection to nature, and reduce social isolation. AD and SC shared the funding webpage for the Wales Council for Voluntary Associations (WCVA) and details of the NRW funding newsletter.

**ACTION: Sub-group members to contact [grantiau.strategol@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:grantiau.strategol@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk) if they wish to receive the NRW funding newsletter.**

### **9.8 Any Further Partner Updates – All**

The Chair provided a brief overview of a statistical update provided by Caitlin Theodorou (CT) in advance of the meeting relating to additional information released with regards to the Census 2021 and its outcomes for Cardigan. Where data is unavailable at Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) level, Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) were used (figure for Cardigan and Aberporth).



Census 2021 Key  
Headlines for Cardigan

**ACTION: Rob Starr (RS) to revise the Baseline Report for Cardigan and provide an update at the next meeting.**

**9.9 A.O.B**

No further items were raised.

**Next meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 10:00-12:00.