Gwent Public Services Board

10TH Business Meeting – 13:00 Thursday 19th September 2024

Notes of Meeting

Present:

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| **Name** | **Organisation represented** |
| Cllr Sean Morgan | Caerphilly County Borough Council (Chair) |
| Dave Street | Caerphilly County Borough Council |
| Paul Matthews | Monmouthshire CBC |
| Steve Morgan | NRW  |
| Rhys Cornwall | Standing in for Beverly Owen, Newport CC |
| Jane Mudd | Police and Crime Commissioner |
| Mark Hobrough | Gwent Police |
| Stephen Vickers | Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent CBC |
| Sian Curley | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner |
| Steve Tiley | GAVO |
| Tracy Daszkiewicz | Aneurin Bevan UHB |
| Anne Evans | Torfaen Voluntary Alliance |
| Dianne Dunning | Welsh Government |
| Ann Lloyd | Aneurin Bevan UHB |
| Louise Bright | University of South Wales |
| Amanda Lewis | Probation Delivery Unit Gwent |
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| **In Attendance** |  |
| Heather Pells | Caerphilly CBC |
| Heather Delonnette  | Caerphilly CBC |
| Kelly Hayes | Torfaen CC |
| Steve Honeywell  | Torfaen CC |
| Kathryn Peters | Caerphilly CBC |
| Kate Williams | Torfaen CC |
| Janice Dent | Newport CC |
| David Arnold | Blaenau Gwent CC |
| Andrew Parker | Blaenau Gwent CC |
| Sharran Lloyd | Monmouthshire CC |
| Janice Dent | Newport CC |
| Sarah King | Blaenau Gwent CC |
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Apologies:

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| Cllr Dimitri Batrouni | Leader, Newport CC |
| Cllr Mary-Ann Brocklesby | Leader Monmouthshire CC |
| Cllr Stephen Thomas | Leader Blaenau Gwent CC |
| Cllr Anthony Hunt | Leader Torfaen CBC |
| Cllr Steven Bradwick | South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority |
| Cllr Penny Jones | Monmouthshire CC |
| Beverly Owen | Newport CC |
| Darren Garwood-Pask | Gwent Police |
| Nicola Dance | Newport CC |
| Robert Hartshorn | Caerphilly CBC |
| Richard Mann | (RSL representative) |
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# WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 10th meeting of the PSB and noted the apologies, and noted that Anne Lloyd of Aneurin Bevan UHB will be attending the meeting later on.

# Notes and Matters Arising from the meeting of the Gwent PSB on 25th April 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

The actions from the previous meeting had been completed.

# APPOINTMENT TO VICE CHAIR

Cllr Morgan said that Tracy Daszkiewicz was the only person nominated as Vice Chair and that this nomination had been supported by the Leaders from Newport, Torfaen, Monmouthshire and Blaenau Gwent.

Tracy said that she welcomed the nomination and was happy to support the Board in any way that was possible.

Tracy was approved by the Board as Vice Chair.

Cllr Morgan thanked Richard Mann for agreeing to be the RSL representative on the PSB for the next six months.

# PSB DELIVERY FRAMEWORK – AREA OF FOCUS 1 BEST START IN LIFE – SARAH KING

Sarah King presented a Delivery Framework that had been developed by pulling together the assessments that have been undertaken, looking at the Well-being Objectives and five steps, considering the recommendations in the Building a Fairer Gwent report and bringing in the Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) too. The PSB had also agreed the four areas of focus: best start in life, safe communities, climate ready communities and economic chances.

Underneath the main reports and recommendations is the monitoring and analysis phase and cycle, that should produce an update on progress against the delivery of each of these areas of focus.

The first of these delivery reports is the one on Best Start in Life. It gives a narrative against the actions, a RAG status for their completion and progress, areas for improvement and risks and barriers to delivery. There is also a data set produced with the team who pulled the JSA together.

Sarah suggested that at each PSB there should be protected time to look at each of the areas of focus, that considers progress being made or not, and prioritisation against recommendations and actions. Some actions may be better to deliver locally, with the PSB concentrating on regional delivery and what can accelerate regional delivery.

The last area is ‘deep dives’, with the PSB identifying areas for deep dive to determine focus and action.

Governance and leadership structures also need to be established and it is important that there is a PSB lead for each area of focus, that will support the production, on a cyclical basis, of the reports and data sets for PSB consideration.

The current information produced has been pulled together by the GSWAG officer group alongside the team that produced the JSA, and they stand ready to support the PSB leads on this work.

There is not as much collaborative regional working around some areas as there should be. This is an issue of governance that the PSB can address.

It was agreed that the PSB would hear Stephen Vickers on item 4 before considering the recommendations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

* **Agree the PSB Lead for Best Start in Life**
* **Agree the next area of focus**
* **Agree Lead for the next area of focus**

# FUTURE DELIVERY MECHANISM FOR THE PSB – STEPHEN VICKERS

Stephen Vickers said that Sarah King is moving onto a new post outside of Gwent and wished her well for the future. He also thanked all the GSWAG officers for their work.

Stephen Vickers said that Sarah had referenced the way the PSB can enhance the three areas, (1) the intelligence data assessments, (2) monitoring and analysis and (3) deep dives into new developments.

Intelligence data assessments: numerous assessments have been undertaken in Gwent and the reports have actionable recommendations to tackle inequalities and the wider PSB agenda. The PSB has solid data to underpin its work.

Monitoring and analysis of delivery: the PSB needs leads for each of the four areas of focus. The data can be compiled into PSB delivery reporting for analysis, challenge and discussion by the PSB. The regional resource can collaborate with the JSA team to create further indicators and reports. The dual reporting can give a holistic view.

Deep dives will allow the PSB to understand some of the more complex issues in the region through deep analysis, and will assist its ability to respond at scale and to national policy issues.

Stephen Vickers thanked Cllr Morgan, Steve Morgan and Tracy Daszkiewicz who have all helped in this work.

Steve Morgan said he supported all Stephen Vickers had said and that he recommended this approach. The framework is the direction that the PSB has been looking for. He also offered to lead on the area of focus on Climate Change and Nature and to take this to the next PSB Meeting.

Cllr Morgan thanked Sarah King for all her work and wished her the best in her next endeavour.

Sarah King said it would be helpful to get an indication of PSB leads on other areas of focus, and that there is a need for governance over the areas of focus as there will be a lot of crossover and cross fertilisation across the groups.

Stephen Vickers said that the CCR have a role in economic chances (one of the areas of focus) and there was a need to find a way to link in with them on that. Cllr Morgan suggested that Capital City Region be invited to have a representative on the PSB. Stephen Vickers agreed it would be helpful to have a conversation with them about this.

Terms of reference for the sub-groups – Kath Peters said that these can be easily be included. She asked for time to come up with a proposal around the staggering and resourcing of the reports to the PSB.

Steve Tiley said that the Third Sector have a Gwent Partnership Agreement and he would like to talk about how the Third Sector can be involved in all of this work.

Tracy Daszkiewicz said that it would be useful to have a group where the four leads can come together to ensure there is effective co-ordination of the work of the four areas of focus groups. This will be included in the proposed, updated Terms of Reference.

Tracy said that the BSIL work was the first ‘deep dive’ and that funding has been received through Regional Integration Fund. This can be used to join up indicators and analysis across the partnership landscape.

**Action:**

**The Delivery Framework was agreed by the PSB.**

**Steve Morgan was agreed as the lead for the Climate Change and Nature area of focus**

**Tracy Daszkiewizc was agreed as the lead for the Best Start in Life area of focus.**

**Cllr Morgan to invite a representative from CCR onto the PSB.**

**Kath Peters to draft Terms of Reference around the Areas of Focus subgroups and to draft a proposal for the staggering and reporting of these groups.**

**It was agreed that there would be a group for the Leads to co-ordinate the work of the four areas of focus.**

1. **PSB ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WELLBEING PLAN – HEATHER DELONNETTE**

Heather Delonnette explained that the legislation requires the production of an annual progress report. This first annual report covers July 2023 to March 2024.

This report outlines what has been learnt and how the PSB partners have come together to work regionally and also includes case studies to give the local flavour. Once approved by the PSB, this report will be sent to the Future Generations Commissioner, Welsh Government Ministers and the Auditor General for Wales. It has already been to the Regional Joint Scrutiny Committee, so it will be for each LA to decide if they want to take it to their local scrutiny process.

Jane Mudd – thanked the officers for bringing this together. She stated that there are a couple of typos. Heather stated that the document has been proofread and these corrected since the document was circulated to the PSB.

**Action: The Annual report was noted and approved.**

1. **COMMUNITY SAFETY REVIEW RECOMMENDATION PAPER – JANE MUDD**

Cllr Morgan welcomed Jane Mudd in her new role as Police and Crime Commissioner.

Jane Mudd said that this paper had previously been disrupted by the election cycle. The paper proposes a strategic partnership group is established. One of the key points is how it will align with the future direction under the UK government, and the community landscape under the new government.

The proposal gives us time to consolidate an approach across Gwent to put us in a stronger position. There is some learning from the process of producing the paper, as the paper may have progressed more quickly if all partners had been able to input at certain points.

There is a need to think about where funding will come from in the future. A strong partnership will put us at a strategic advantage in the future.

Rhys Cornwall (standing in for Beverly Owen) stated that agreeing terms of reference will be crucially important as both the PSB and the Community Safety Partnership are statutory partnerships.

Amanda Lewis (Head of Probation in Gwent) thanked Jane for the paper and picture the complex in terms of commissioners and how to consolidate it and the Terms of Reference that will be developed.

Steve Morgan – thanked Jane for the paper and asked where this strategic group sits in relation to the PSB area of focus ‘Everyone lives in a place they feel safe’? He asked how we can bring this together rather than set up a separate entity. Jane said that it needs to be discussed further in relation to the Terms of Reference, taking into consideration the statutory duties that LAs have in relation to community safety, and there are broader issues in relation to Housing Associations and Third Sector partners that need to be considered too. There is a need to ensure wider PSB partners are not excluded.

Kath Peters - if a governance paper is with the PSB it should be reflected in the terms of reference, she asked whether Jane Mudd can be involved directly to make sure everything is considered. Jane Mudd agreed.

Tracy Daszkiewicz welcomed the paper and the mention of public health. In other parts of the UK a public health approach has been beneficial to community safety. Tracy offered to contribute to this work.

Steve Morgan re-stated that he feels there needs to be alignment between this strategy and the strategic work of the PSB on community safety.

**Action**

**The paper was noted and approved.**

**Kath to work with Jane Mudd in relation to the governance.**

# UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE SECTION 16 WORKING GROUP - STEVE TILEY

Steve Tiley said that this paper has been to the RPB and he felt it was important for it to come here and for him to outlay the work that has been done on this.

Section 16 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act is around LAs promoting social enterprises, co-operatives, user led services and the Third Sector to provide care, support and preventative services.

A partnership steering committee has been created to look at this, based on early intervention and prevention, and some commissioning areas are also being reviewed. They are still looking at commissioning so any support in this work would be useful.

The committee is looking at how to take the work forward and its challenges – there is good representation from the Third Sector and LAs and Health. Any support from the PSB would be appreciated particularly around commissioning.

Ann Evans agreed with Steve and added that they had a provider forum in Gwent but this is a new focus.

Ann Lloyd said that this has been supported by the Regional Partnership Board and she really endorses this approach. She felt that we need to diversify and use all our skills within our communities to deliver a better range of services that are really designed with those people.

**Action: PSB notes the report**

# PROBATION RESET AND EARLY RELEASE PLANS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES – AMANDA LEWIS

Amanda Lewis stated that the briefing paper had been circulated. The prison population is in crisis as there are not enough places. The early release scheme has created pressure on the probation service, and a lot of work has been done around safeguarding and public protection. The Government saw the impact on probation and brought in the probation reset which is where in the latter third of the sentence the contact with probation ceases. There are exclusions to this for child protection and high-risk individuals.

Amanda stated that men are not just cut off, there is significant exit planning and working with other agencies on any areas of concern. This is working well so far – there have been 250 to 300 cases in reset and only a few have come back into supervision due to risk.

There was a legislation change in Standard Determinate Sentences (SDS) cases. A reduction in the time served in prison for certain people currently serving SDS from 50% of their sentence to 40% where people were released earlier and there has been a lot of work in relation to this. The first tranche was released at the beginning of September: 22 were released in Gwent, with 15 in the next tranche, and even fewer in the tranche after this. There are robust arrangements in place with LA housing who have details of those with no fixed abode. Of those released only one has been returned to prison for a new offence.

For every person released a safeguarding check is undertaken with the police and all necessary measures are put in place to make sure risk management plans are in place. RIF

Amanda thanked LA colleagues who have been fantastic and a huge support and said it had been great working with them on new ways of working.

All agencies are on board and working together and it has been a good opportunity to start new conversations and do new planning.

There is still a lot of work to do with reset and Amanda hoped that she had reassured the PSB that the number had not been too high in Gwent, and that there are processes in place to make sure the public is safe and that these men have what they need to be released safely.

Jane Mudd said thanks to Amanda and that she really recognised the volume of work for all stakeholders on this item.

Action: paper noted.

1. INFORMATION ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS

**Appointment of new Chair of the PSB – Kath Peters**

Cllr Morgan stated that he is stepping down in December 2024.

Kath said that the governance reminder paper had been re-circulated to PSB members and that the Chair’s term of office ends in December and a new Chair will need to be appointed. She proposed that PSB members would be written to asking for expressions of interest or nominations. She explained that the Terms of Reference are clear that the Chair does not need to be from a Local Authority but can be from another partner agency.

Secretarial support can come from bodies other than the LA as well.

Action: Kath Peters to write to all members asking for nominations for Chair of the PSB

**Future items for the PSB – Kath Peters**

* Area of Focus 2
* Joint Strategic Assessment
* Evaluation of the finance and outcomes of the scrutiny process
* Chair

Jane Mudd stated that we are currently running a survey that supports the development of a Police and Crime Plan and it would be helpful for partners to look at this and to help to set priorities.

Tracy Daszkiewicz stated that she sits on the national HIV action group and one of the national targets is stopping new transmission by 2030. She asked for space on the next agenda for Gwent to be adopted as a Fast Track region.

**Date of Next Meeting 12 December 2024 and close:**

 @ 13:00pm via MS Teams

Action Summary

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| **Agenda Item**  | **Action detail** | **Responsible** |
| 4 | Cllr Morgan to invite a representative from CCR onto the PSB.  | Cllr Morgan |
| 4 | Kath Peters to draft Terms of reference for the Areas of Focus subgroups and to draft a proposal for the staggering and resourcing of these groups. | Kath Peters |
| 4 | It was agreed that there would be a group for the Leads to co-ordinate the work of the four areas of focus. | Kath Peters |
| 6 | Kath Peters to work with Jane Mudd in relation to the governance paper and the strategic partnership proposal | Kath Peters and Jane Mudd |
| 9 | Kath Peters to write to all members to ask for nominations to become chair of the PSB  | Kath Peters |
| 9 | HIV action plan and fast track regions to be on the agenda of the next PSB  | Heather Pells |