



Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board

Annual Report 2025



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Foreword

The Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board (PSB) published its second Well-being Plan for the county borough in May 2023, following a comprehensive assessment of the well-being of the local population and extensive consultation and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders.

We are pleased to publish our second annual report for this Plan which gives an overview of what we have achieved during the last year and sets out what we intend to do next.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires us to secure the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of local people and to do so sustainably. In Neath Port Talbot we are navigating the challenge of supporting our communities during the Tata Steel transitional phase whilst working to maximise the opportunities arising from new investment into the area. It is important that, during this time of change and development, we also ensure that we look after our natural environment so it can be enjoyed by our future generations.

We continue to be confident that the benefits of partner relations developed as result of the PSB have helped us respond more efficiently to the situations that have arisen over recent years and have set us in good stead for future work. As we implement our second Well-being Plan, we are building on these relationships and the learning that has been achieved by working more closely together. There may be challenging times ahead but we are committed as partners to come together and improve outcomes for the communities we serve. We hope you will be interested in the work we are doing and would welcome ideas and contributions that can bring about change that creates the Neath Port Talbot we all want.



Cllr Steven Hunt
Leader of Neath Port Talbot CBC
Chair of NPT PSB



Roger Thomas
Chief Fire Officer Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Vice Chair of NPT PSB



Background

The Welsh Government established public services boards to encourage local organisations to work together and with their local residents to improve the well-being of the people who live in their area. The way in which the Welsh Government wants to see this carried out in practice is set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other guidance.

The Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board (PSB), first established in 2016, brings together leaders and decision makers from public service organisations and the voluntary and community sector with the aim of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Neath Port Talbot. The PSB has adopted a public health approach to well-being and recognises the importance of considering the wider determinants of health when addressing the mental and physical health of our population.

During 2021/22 the Neath Port Talbot PSB undertook an extensive local assessment of well-being. You can read about our findings including a summary of key themes from the assessment [here](#).

Everything we learned from this assessment was used to develop our second Well-being Plan for Neath Port Talbot.

[Neath Port Talbot Well-being Plan 2023-28](#)

[Neath Port Talbot Well-being Plan on a Page](#)





Our Statutory Partners



**Awdurdod Tân ac Achub
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru**
Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Authority



**GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES** | Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board



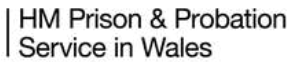
Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru**
**Natural
Resources
Wales**



Our Invited Partners





Vision

We want Neath Port Talbot to be a vibrant and healthy place where people have an equal chance to get on in life – a place where people want to live, learn, work, invest and visit for many generations to come.

We want local public services, including the Third Sector, to be effective and value for money, easy for people to use, and offer quality employment where people are valued and appreciated for the work they do. Together with citizens, we will build on our strong and cohesive communities where the rights of everyone will be respected and protected.

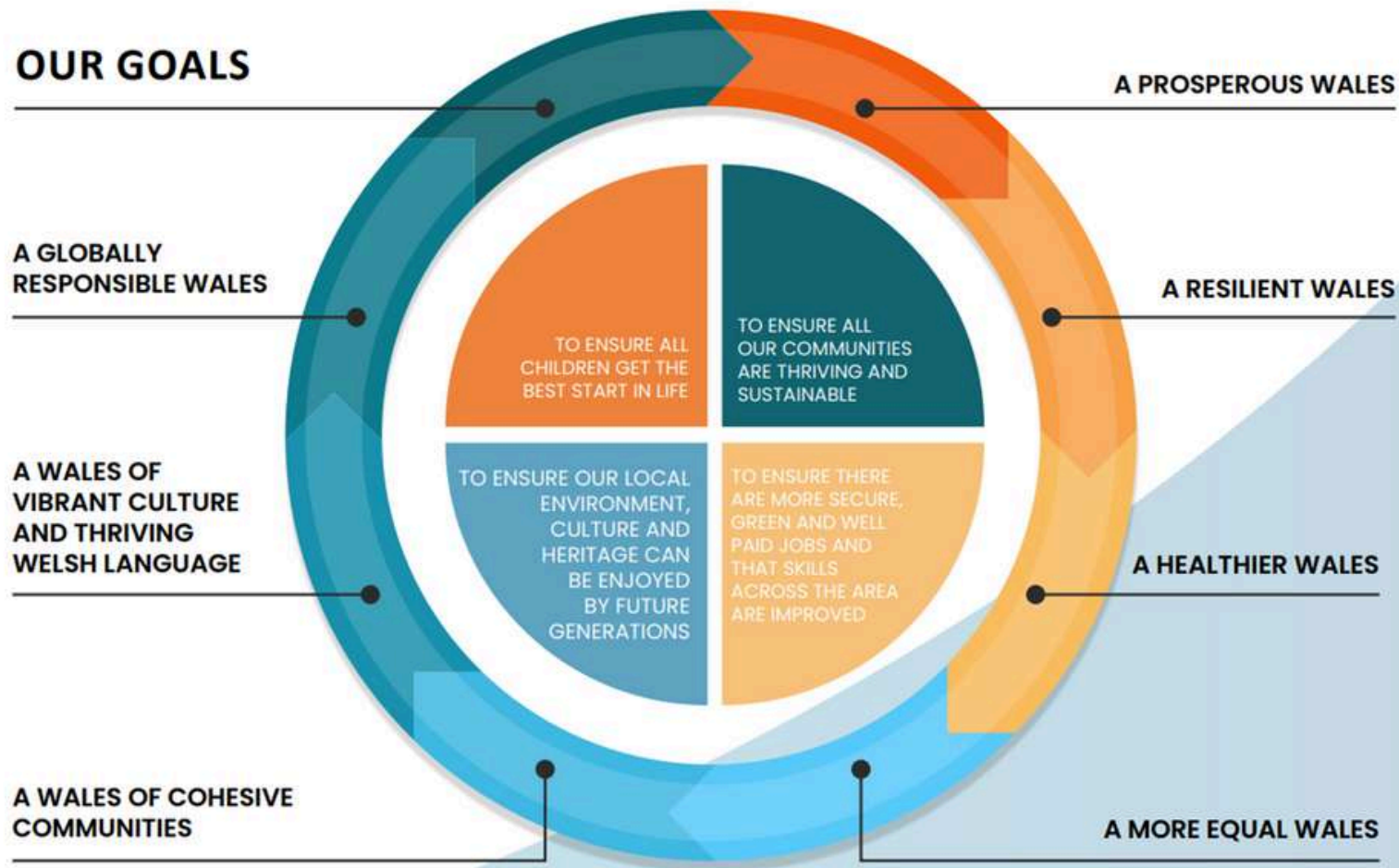
We want our public services to be focused on enabling people and communities to be resilient and it will be the norm for citizens to experience seamless, personalised, high quality services. Public service delivery will create the right conditions for investment that will enable the county borough to attract and sustain quality, sustainable employment for local people.

Our communities will be well connected through a first class digital and transport infrastructure and we will value and protect our natural environment, wildlife will be thriving, supporting healthy lifestyles and sustainable communities.

We will have achieved our vision when all children and young people have the best start in life; when all young people and adults have the skills and resilience to be healthy and prosperous; when people are safe and feel safe; when all of our communities are thriving and supporting the people who live there; and where people can draw on the support of neighbours and well-developed social networks.



Our Well-being Objectives 2023-28



We said we would take the following steps :-

Take a co-ordinated approach to supporting the mental health and well-being of our children and young people so they are able to flourish and thrive

Ensure that when our youngest children start school they are confident and ready to learn

Ensure better alignment of early intervention services in order to meet the needs of our children, young people and their families

Support and advise our school leavers to increase access to employment, education or training

Our second years' progress includes

100% of secondary schools and 80% of all schools are now actively planning and are on board with the Whole School Approach to Emotional Health and Wellbeing.

NPT has pioneered a sector-leading approach to Forest School training, establishing a comprehensive model aimed at enhancing outdoor education across the entire county which has been showcased as a case study in one of the NPT schools recently inspected by Estyn.

The Early Years and Flying Start (EYFS) team continue to work effectively with multi-agency partners, including the Inclusion Service and Health to implement valuable transition systems and processes that support our youngest children to transition into childcare and early education effectively.

The ongoing implementation of the Early Years Multi-Agency Panel has resulted in the continued effective co-ordination of support for pre-school children with ALN. Since February 2021, 756 children have been discussed at EYMAP and all have been provided with valuable support.

The Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP) Panel continues to experience significant demand for services. In 2024/25, a total of 1719 referrals were received, including 1449 referrals for children and young people. The service was reviewed in 2024 and as a result information provided to families has been improved and digital connections with Social Services have been updated.

At the end of quarter 4 the Families First Youth Workers have finished supporting 243 young people with 92% stating an improvement in their emotional/wellbeing.

The Youth Service Legacy Team work with a range of partners to give young people who are at risk of becoming NEET a diverse and broad options menu to help with their transition. At the end of quarter 4 the Legacy Youth Workers have supported over 220 year 11 pupils. The Youth Service also supports young people who are Electively Home Educated (EHE). The Keeping in Touch Team have supported 53 year 11 EHE pupils.

In response to the lengthy waiting times for children and young people to receive a Neurodevelopmental (ND) assessment, NPT and Swansea LAs have worked collaboratively in developing an early intervention support model. The 'Myth Busting' project has been identified by the West Glamorgan Neurodiverse Board, as well as the Wales Neurodivergence Team as a good practice example, which has been shared nationally.

Valuable work has been undertaken by the Local Authority working with Welsh Government and partners in the sector to increase access to childcare. Following a two year roll out, Flying Start Phase 2 of expansion has been completed successfully. Since April 2023, 510 children eligible for childcare via the Flying Start expansion programme have benefitted from high quality Flying Start expansion funded childcare.

The Youth Service provides early intervention and prevention support to address the risk of youth homelessness. At the end of quarter 4 the team have provided support to 29 young people who have been identified as being at risk of youth homelessness.

The Youth Engagement Strategy for NPT was presented and approved by Cabinet. The new Youth Engagement Strategy Group met in April 2025.

SPF NPT Employability Anchor Project - A total of 115 engagements, 13 have completed volunteering, 34 job outcomes, 14 paid work opportunities and 82 have completed one or more qualifications or training courses.

Through Shared Prosperity Funding, NPT Employability has given us the opportunity to offer all year 10's within our secondary educational system an offer of a work experience placement (WEP). This work has been invaluable and a real success to those who have undertaken WEP. During this period, we have had 359 young people who have undertaken WEP across 4 schools.



The Children and Young People's Leadership group continues to coordinate the implementation of the Early Years, Children and Young People's Plan effectively. Five multi-agency Priority Outcome groups have been established to address identified strategic priorities. Work is currently ongoing to develop action plans to achieve the identified priority areas, including Early Years. It is anticipated that this phase of the work will be completed during quarter 1 of 2025.

The five priorities are :_

Supporting our youngest children to be healthy and ready to learn.

Children, Young People and their families are able to access the right support at the right time with positive outcomes.

Children and Young People can access education that inspires them to learn and develop skills they need for the future that they want.

Children and Young People are listened to, and they have opportunities to be actively involved in decision making.

All Children and Young People should be supported to help them be physically healthy and feel mentally and emotionally strong.

Early Years Principles for Collaboration



In addition to this work, the Health Board has worked with NPT and Swansea Local Authorities on behalf of the PSB to develop a set of Principles to support regional working across the Health Board footprint. These are the Early Years Principles for Collaboration. We believe that those most in need should be targeted first to reduce inequalities.

What we will do next:

Progress the NPT Early Years and Children and Young People's Plan and work in Partnership with Public Service Board partners including the commitment made to the Regional Early Years Principles for Collaboration agreed with Swansea Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board.

Implement and embed the C&YP Participation and Engagement Strategy and the Youth Engagement Strategy.

Review how services ensure engagement and participation of children, young people and their families. Refine how is this reported and how impact is measured. Develop the skills of children, young people and key stakeholders to ensure their voices are central to key decisions.

Work on three identified short term priority areas across the early years. Focus on key speech, language and communication milestones, as part of the wider developmental journey. Build on the Healthy Child Wales programme to support the health and wellbeing of all children . Support transition into education.

Reduce the number of young people who are NEET further by supporting and guiding year 11 pupils to transition post 16 life and continue supporting young people post 16.

How will we know?

The voices of children and young people have shaped the Children and Young People's Plan and it's important that they participate in evaluating the priorities and their impact. Priority Outcome 4 of the CYP Plan states children and young people will be listened to and will have opportunities to be actively involved in decision making. This will be crucial to all aspects of the PSB's work and it is intended this workstream will be the co-ordination point for ensuring the voice of the child is integral to everything we do.

More detail can be seen in the monitoring framework but some of the measures we will be looking to affect are:-

- % children of a healthy weight at age 4- 5 years (Child Measurement Programme)
- % of unauthorised absence sessions in maintained schools 5-15 (Welsh Government)
- Mental well-being score 11-16 year olds (School Health Research Network – SHRN)
- % of Year 11 school leavers categorised as NEET (not in education, employment or training) (Stats Wales)

Long Term	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement
<p>By investing in our early years we are supporting the long term well-being of our area, impacting on all our well-being objectives. Our Children and Young People's Plan looks to 2029 and beyond.</p>	<p>We are working together to prevent ill health and promote wellbeing. Where children are impacted by wider issues, we aim to prevent them from escalating and requiring intensive support so our children can move towards adulthood feeling confident and supported. Prevention of homelessness is a specific current focus for our young people.</p>	<p>By supporting our children to have the best start in life we are impacting on all our well-being objectives and looking forward to a thriving and sustainable NPT. We are working with partners to ensure there are better integrated services to support early years, children and young people.</p>	<p>We cannot achieve these steps as single agencies. Collaboration is key to making a difference in our children's lives. We will develop our action plans and working groups collaboratively.</p>	<p>The Early Years, Children and Young People's Plan has been developed by speaking to our families in NPT and understanding what they need and what matters to them. Continued involvement will be key to ensuring the successful delivery of this Plan.</p>



We said we would take the following steps :-

<p>Make sure that those who need help and support with cost of living know what support is available and how to access it</p>	<p>Identify gaps in help and support and how those gaps could be addressed</p>	<p>Revisit the work undertaken with the support of the Bevan Foundation prior to the pandemic and reset the strategic objectives and actions to address the root causes of poverty now</p>	<p>Collaborate with our communities, to reduce crime, the fear of crime and to make our communities safer and more cohesive</p>
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Our second years' progress includes

The Cost of Living and Poverty Prevention Steering Group partners took part in a workshop facilitated by the Health Board (SBUHB) in July 2024, framed around a systems mapping exercise (mirroring an activity undertaken by participants of the Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales in June 2024).

Partners reviewed the spring workshop feedback in terms of:

- Factors under the direct control of the PSB
- Factors the PSB would be able to influence
- Factors the PSB could not influence, but were important
- Environmental factors

In late Oct-24, the Steering Group held its first 'focus area' child poverty workshop, which was facilitated by the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG). The theme of the workshop was the 'cost of the school day,' reflecting on the early findings of CPAG's project in NPT. Representatives from the Youth Council, Local Area Coordinators, Cwtch Mawr and Canolfan Maerdy also attended the workshop to share their feedback, which added valuable insight to the discussion.

Following this workshop the Steering Group made the decision to focus the action plan on child poverty (ages 0-25). To support with delivery of the targeted actions, the number of actions has been significantly reduced, recognising the importance of making the biggest impact with the limited time and resource available.

The four actions are:

- Maximising income
- Reducing Living Costs
- Financial Inclusion
- Holistic support for children and families

The Safer Neath Port Talbot Community Safety Partnership (CSP) leads on this step and has achieved the following progress during the year for the agreed 6 priorities for 2024-27 as follows:

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

(VAWDASV) -Revised local strategy in place for 2023-2026. The strategy focuses on seven key areas of work. This work is overseen by the local VAWDASV Leadership Group. Annual Report prepared for 2024

Anti Social Behaviour

Continued partnership work to tackle hotspots of ASB in our communities, and working with our most prolific offenders. Continued engagement with the community and the importance of recognising what constitutes ASB and reporting issues via official methods

Using the **Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT)** as a way to identify those are eligible for certain benefits but for some reason not claiming, we undertook a couple of campaigns. Between April 24 and March 25, the **Pension Credit Campaign** has raised almost £450,000 in annual Pension Credit income for the successful claimants. And as a result of the Pension Credit Campaign, an estimated £37,800 in **Winter Fuel Payments** has successfully been claimed – which works out as approximately £200 per household.

To help provide warm and welcoming spaces for the community, 34 organisations each received grants of £2,285 through the **Warm Spaces Grant**. This grant supported organisations with their heating and lighting costs and enabled them to offer free Wi-Fi, along with free or subsidised hot drinks and food.

The **Hardship Relief Scheme** provided support to over 1,800 households in Neath Port Talbot. A total of 2,431 interventions took place between April 24 and March 25, ranging from vouchers to provide warm measures, to energy and water company payments

Citizens Advice Swansea Neath Port Talbot were able to help write off £394,982 during 24-25, compared to £78,209 the previous year – that's over a 400% increase! It evidences that the cost-of-living pressures remain, with debts rising.

In terms of **communications**, we had almost 30,000 views on our 'Help with the Cost of Living' webpages, raising awareness of the help and support available to people in Neath Port Talbot

Neath Port Talbot CVS continued to strengthen the voluntary, community and wider third sector by supporting local groups, facilitating partnerships and providing valuable insight from communities, which helped to inform the Steering Group's focus. Recently, we led a community event at DOVE Workshop to explore funding challenges faced by grassroots organisations and are now developing a poverty network to connect key groups supporting those in financial hardship.

Community Cohesion

Continued work across the region to monitor and reduce any community tensions. Developing a programme of events to build cohesive communities and integrate our marginalised groups. Continued partnership work to raise awareness of Hate Crime and encourage reporting.

Substance Use

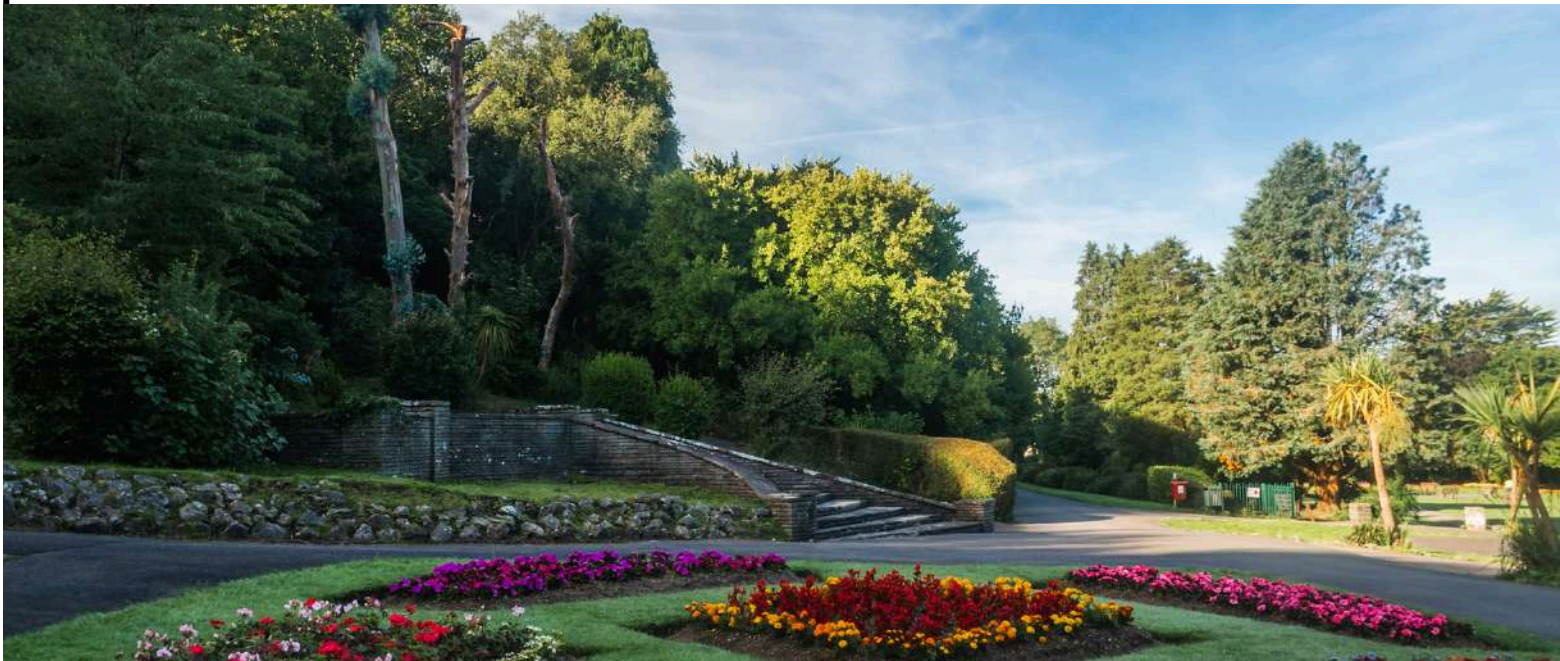
Continued work via the Area Planning Board to develop, deliver and improve, efficient and effective substance misuse services

General Crime Prevention

Ongoing programme of bespoke 'place based' engagement events to speak to local residents about issues of crime and anti social behaviour in their local area; to raise awareness of crime prevention campaigns and initiatives, which the team Community Safety and partners have developed in response to local intelligence and emerging trends.

Serious Violence

In response to the new Serious Violence Duty, the partnership has developed a Regional Board. This group will ensure we meet statutory requirements with the development of a regional needs assessment. A small amount of funding from the Home Office has allowed the partnership to employ an analyst and identify hot spots or areas for concern.



What we will do next

With the focus now on **child poverty**, and recognising that child poverty crosses various workstreams, there will be a real need to ensure we effectively collaborate with others. We have begun discussions about how we can ensure the exchange of timely information. This work will be closely integrated with the Children and Young People's Plan workstreams, recognising that poverty is one of the greatest determinants of health inequalities. Looking ahead to our **Action Plan** for the coming year, we will continue with the targeted LIFT initiatives and communications campaigns, ensuring that information reaches those most affected by the ongoing cost-of-living challenges.

We also need to further develop the two remaining priorities - Financial Inclusion and Holistic Support - by identifying targeted, measurable actions to ensure we remain focused on the tangible impact of the Partnership's work.

Something we have long wanted to do, is bring in the **voice of the child**. To support this, we have recently reviewed the Partnership's membership and extended invitations to Save the Children and the Child Poverty Action Group, both of which actively engage with children and young people on issues related to poverty. We understand that including the voice of the child is critical - not only to the Cost of Living and Poverty Prevention Partnership, but across all PSB workstreams. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring this is done in a respectful and appropriate way.

The partnership will be focusing on a number of key projects during 2025/26, including:

Development of the new **Violence Prevention Board and Youth Violence Subgroup**, to meet the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty (2022)

Operation Adriatic – The beachfront operation to tackle seasonal anti-social behaviour.

Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week – This national campaign takes place during the first week of July and each day of the week has a different theme.

Crucial Crew - Crucial Crew is Neath Port Talbot Councils Community Safety Team flagship event, held annually for all Year 6 pupils before they transition to secondary school.



How will we know?

Metrics are being included in the Action Plan, to measure the impact of the interventions and to understand if we are making a difference to the people we are targeting. While we have scoped out some measures related to the LIFT and comms campaigns, we have more work to do in respect of the financial inclusion and holistic support elements of the plan.

The Steering Group are aware of the importance of demonstrating the ‘so what’ effect of their actions, which means that monitoring and evaluation of the plan will be crucial. A Highlight Report will be produced for reporting purposes, which will be taken to the Steering Group’s quarterly meetings for 2025-2026.

The following statistics are from the LIFT (Policy in Practice) newsletter, these are out of 15,682 households in NPT that are claiming housing benefit as of April 2025, showing some reductions to the figures from last year, shown in brackets.

- 962 (1,244) households are likely to be facing food poverty
- 6,923 (7,397) households are likely to be facing fuel poverty
- 12,045 (12,887) households are likely to be facing water poverty
- 821 (1,112) of these households are likely to be facing both food and fuel poverty
- 821 (1,112) households are likely to be facing food, fuel, and water poverty.

The six priorities are outlined in the Strategic Intent Document which has recently been approved. We are one year into the implementation phase, where progress is monitored at every Community Safety Partnership Board, and an annual report has been prepared. This will be shared with the PSB.

Some of the intended outcomes over the 2024-27 period include:-

- Increase in referrals (VAWDASV) to local specialist services, and to Police and Health
 - A reduction in the number of repeat victims to incidents of ASB and neighbourhood crime.
 - Reduce the number of drug related deaths in Neath Port Talbot (and Swansea).
 - More people are reporting hate crime they experience, and feel well supported.
- Strategic Needs Assessment to be completed for the South Wales Police force area relating to the Serious Violence Duty.

Long Term	Prevention	Intergration	Collaboration	Involvement
<p>The Cost of Living and Poverty Prevention Partnership is working to consider the root causes of poverty in NPT. This should enable us to be clearer about the levers we are able to influence to contribute to a structural reduction in poverty – this will include preventative and reactive measures.</p>	<p>By working closely with our communities the Community Safety Partnership aims to prevent and minimise crime and anti social behaviour. The grants administered via Warm Wales and the LIFT campaigns are preventing poverty escalation.</p>	<p>The steps support all four wellbeing objectives which have been designed to be interrelated. The reduction of poverty will impact directly on economic well-being. We also know that our most vulnerable communities are most at risk of the impacts of Climate Change and are working to explore these correlations.</p>	<p>The steps commit to the widest collaboration not just amongst PSB organisations, but the community, people with lived experience, front line workers, the private and third sectors. The benefits of effective collaboration are already evident.</p>	<p>Central to these actions is a commitment to co-production through working with people who have lived experience and those who provide front line services. Specific focus is being given to the voice of the child linking with the ‘Best Start in Life’ objective in relation to child poverty and other interrelated issues..</p>

Case Study - Community Cohesion Cup

South Wales Police & Safer Neath Port Talbot present the 2024 Cohesion Cup



**CWPAN CYDLYNIAD
COHESION CUP
2024**

In partnership with MyRounders

**Rounders Tournament | Information Stalls
Entertainment | Refreshments**

Sunday 4th August | 9:30am - 4:30pm
Port Talbot Town Cricket Club, Fenbrook Close, SA12 7PA

FREE



In August 2024 the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership hosted the ‘Cohesion Cup’, a Rounder’s Tournament for local community groups and residents. The event was hosted at Port Talbot Town Cricket Club, sponsored by our Welsh Government Community Cohesion Grant, TATA Steel, Flawless Hair Studio, and supported by both NPTCBC and South Wales Police. The Cricket Club and MyRounders kindly waived any fees for their venue hire and services, to allow us to deliver a community event that was free of charge.

The event drew in over 400 local residents who were able to see their family and friends compete in a friendly rounder’s tournament. Teams included; The Table Church Skewen, Thrive Women’s Aid, CRISIS Homelessness Service, TESCO, Local Area Coordinators and more.

Throughout the day, various stall holders promoted their services, and key awareness raising messages around Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, but also the importance of cohesive communities and inclusion.

The event was a huge success and will return for its 2nd year during the summer of 2026 – this time bigger and better with 14 teams participating.’

We said we would take the following steps :-

<p>Take collaborative action to tackle the climate emergency (adaptation and mitigation)</p>	<p>Take collaborative action to tackle the nature crisis and improve the health of our ecosystems</p>	<p>Take collaborative action to identify the interdependencies between actions around maintaining and enhancing resilient communities and a resilient natural environment</p>	<p>Encourage engagement and participation in cultural activities and the celebration and preservation of our cultural assets</p>
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Our second years' progress includes

We have established a Climate and Nature Partnership to lead on these steps on behalf of the PSB and to also oversee the integration of this well-being objective across all the work of the Board. The partnership has core membership of Natural Resources Wales (NRW), NPT Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board. Work is underway to expand this membership to provide broader representation across the partnership.

It has been agreed by the PSB this partnership is ideally placed to lead on a Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) for NPT using NRW's Framework which supports PSBs in carrying out a CCRA of their Wellbeing Plans.

Progress has been limited during 2024/25 due to a number of reasons. These include:

- -Changes and uncertainties around leadership and resource allocation in partner organisations
- -Lack of single co-ordinator/secretariat role
- -Scale of CCRA task and resource required –
- -Queries around need to explore engaging consultancy support and related costs

Key partners have agreed the following actions in order to provide focus and progress.

- -Each PSB stakeholder organisation to nominate single representative onto the CCRA Project Group
- -Project delivery to remain in house
- -Project to remain focused on where PSB can make a difference to Climate Resilience in NPT

Project to focus on top 5 climate risks relevant to NPT –

The core group agreed a top 3 of

Heat Flood Air Quality

Our Culture and Heritage Strategies and our Destination Management Plan have provided a shared vision. They set out ways to celebrate our amazing place of Neath Port Talbot in an inclusive and open way, and to share our resources so that all our residents and visitors can experience the best of our arts, heritage, and sports.

This year we have disseminated £1.9 million funding via the Heritage, Culture, Tourism and Events Fund to public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

Neath Port Talbot has recently been allocated by Arts Council Wales as one of its three priority areas in Wales.

The Cultural Compact held its first meeting on 30th April 2025.



We are really excited to be hosting the Urdd Eisteddfod at Margam Park in May 2025. Amongst other achievements, participation by Welsh learners across our community (NPT and Swansea) has increased this year to 31% of all competitors (as at Feb 2025), creating an ongoing legacy.

What we will do next?

The core officer group has agreed going forward the project should have a limited focus on PSB partners top 3 climate risks. This will ensure that the CCRA process will identify adaptation actions in the key areas where the PSB can have the greatest impact on wellbeing.

To achieve this the next steps are to

- -Establish CCRA Task and Finish Group with nominated representatives from PSB partner organisations.
- -Continue to pursue project within PSB skills (not outsource)
- -Establish top 3 priority climate risks amongst PSB partners to inform focus of project

- -Continue dissemination of SPF funded Heritage, Culture, Tourism and Events Fund
- -Recruit into an Arts Sector Development post
- -Securing longer term funding for Culture Strategy staffing resource and projects
- -Increase partner involvement
- -Firmly establish Cultural Partnership/ Compact structure
- -Carry out an audit of Cultural landscape in NPT
- -Complete RB100 Centenary Year & Urdd and evaluations

How will we know?

As work progresses on the CCRA steps will be taken to start the development of an adaptation strategy for the area which will include timescales and measures.

The Culture and Heritage Strategies and our Destination Management Plan each contain detailed action plans. Progress is being measured against these strategies with a measure of 70% of targets being met.

Long Term	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement
<p>We need to take and sustain action, understanding and addressing systemic root causes and securing transformational change. The CCRA will look as far ahead as possible supporting and informing our adaptation as partners.</p>	<p>By working together we can help to prevent and reverse escalation of climate change and loss to our biodiversity. Our Culture and Heritage strategies will prevent further loss to our heritage assets.</p>	<p>It was clear when analysing the findings of the well-being assessment that our natural environment impacts every aspect of our well-being and is integral to every one of our objectives . The Climate and Nature group will support this integration across the work of the PSB</p>	<p>No single partner can effect change alone. We are committed as a Board to working together and taking equal responsibility to address this objective.</p>	<p>We will involve our communities in our workstream decisions and support them to help maintain and enhance their local area. Community involvement will be key to delivering our Culture and Heritage strategies. The CCRA will also involve residents and communities.</p>



Case Study: Richard Burton Centenary

The Richard Burton Centenary Celebration 'RB100' launched in February 2025, with NPTCBC leading on behalf of all partners across Wales.

Funding has been secured to deliver a corresponding marketing campaign via Event Wales, between February and April 2025 the campaign reached a total of 3.5 million people. NPT Officers Chair the RB100 Steering Group which meets monthly to guide project delivery.

The year long celebration includes the new Richard Burton Trails, guided tours, book talks, poetry competitions etc and ends with a Gala event in November. The events and activities are showing high levels of engagement among the local community and visitors to the area. More information on the centenary can be found here. www.richardburton100.org



There are more secure, green and well paid jobs and skills across the area are improved

We said we would take the following steps

Develop Circular and Foundational economies and promote local people and businesses to spend more money in NPT	Encourage a regenerative local economy where the impacts of production and consumption are reduced	Increase the number of apprenticeship, traineeship and work placement opportunities in the local area and support more people to access them	Support more people to achieve the necessary level qualifications linked to the skills that local employers need now and in the future	Ensure local businesses, local people and communities have maximum benefit from external major investment for the area both existing and planned
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Our second years' progress includes

Considerable activity is underway which will contribute to meeting the well-being objective and identified steps, including:

Neath Port Talbot Regeneration Strategy (SQW) – the Strategy is in the process of being finalised and SQW have engaged with representatives of the Local Economic Partnership to develop the Strategy and map the strategies / plans / activities of partner organisations

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Neath Port Talbot Council led the delivery of the £33m UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2022 - 25 programme in Neath Port Talbot. There were five anchor projects, Skills, Multiply, Strategic Projects and seven Third Party Grant schemes. The programme closed on 31st March 2025.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2025 – 26 £14m programme has just been launched and Neath Port Talbot Council is delivering a programme of projects across the three priority areas of: Communities & Place; Supporting Local Business; and People & Skills.

Three Third Party Grant Schemes are open to applications for all sectors.

UK Levelling Up Fund

There are two UK government funded programmes in delivery – Vale of Neath Visitor Attractor programme including Gnoll County Park and Pontneddfechan infrastructure improvements, and the Port Talbot Town Centre Regeneration programme including improvements to the Princess Royal Theatre. The programmes are due to complete by Spring 2026.

The Newbridge Road Bridge project is awaiting a formal funding agreement from UK Government, albeit at this stage we have only been awarded funding to undertake the design of the project. We will be advised after the Spring Spending Review whether there are funds available to deliver the scheme.

UK Research and Innovation Launchpad

Neath Port Talbot Council is a strategic partner in the South West Wales Innovate UK Net Zero Industry Wales led Driving Net Zero Innovation and Growth Launchpad which provides funding opportunities and regional support for businesses developing decarbonisation initiatives.

UKRI Place Based Impact Accelerator Account (PBIAA) SWITCH to net zero buildings

Neath Port Talbot Council is a civic partner with Swansea University, University of South Wales and Cardiff University to speed up the rate at which innovations are adopted, meaning that these technologies become more affordable and more widely deployed. This innovation ecosystem will also create strong local supply chains, boosting economic growth in the region.

TATA Transition

Immediate response package fully operational and being delivered by NPT Council including the following funds:

- • Supply Chain
- • Employability and Skills
- • Business Growth, Resilience and Start Up

A number of high value capital projects have also been developed with the SWITCH project approved and approval of a further package of regeneration projects imminent.

Celtic Freeport

Submission of documentation for Full Business Case accelerated and now submitted. Two of the three Tax sites have been designated.

Local Economic Action Plan (LEAP)

The strategy has been finalised and is being utilised to frame the development of the capital and revenue funds supported through the TATA Transition Fund



What we will do next?

- Complete the NPT Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy
- Launch and deliver TATA Transition capital projects
- Approval of Celtic Freeport Full Business Case
- Planning for future UK Government funding programmes
- Preparation of the Industrial legacy land regeneration strategy

How will we know

Monitoring and evaluation processes are in place for all interventions and are regularly reported back to the PSB.

Long Term	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement
<p>We will look as far ahead as possible ensuring we have the right skills for future jobs, developing our transitioning economy in a green and sustainable way.</p>	<p>Action is needed to reverse the downward trajectory of spiralling poverty by exploring the root causes and taking collaborative action.</p>	<p>The economy impacts across all of our well-being objectives and there are explicit links with our environment objective in terms of work going forward.</p>	<p>This is key to progressing our local economy. We are committed to working together as partners and also with our private sector businesses. The mapping of partners economic strategies will give us a good basis to drive this objective.</p>	<p>Broad involvement is needed to progress this objective, from individuals and communities to small businesses and large manufacturers whose input will be crucial for success.</p>



Data, Monitoring & Evaluation

PSB Well-being Data Portal

During 2024-25 we have worked with Data Cymru to develop a PSB Well-being Data Portal for NPT. This work has been carried out in collaboration with Swansea and Cwm Taf Morgannwg PSBs. Following some extensive work mapping our well-being plans we were able to agree on a common set of relevant indicators which will be kept up to date in a portal separately branded for each of the PSBs.

This information will be used as a source of data for the future population and well-being assessments, as well as being a means of assessing progress and tracking the course of our well-being objectives by helping to inform our monitoring framework detailed below.

PSB Monitoring Framework

Work has been ongoing during the year to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework in order to demonstrate progress around the delivery of the Well-being Plan. The framework includes key population indicators relevant to each well-being objective, alongside some more specific outcome measures relating to the workstreams within the Plan.

In the Well-being Plan we included a number of potential performance measures to evidence delivery. These have now been refined and will form a first draft of the NPT PSB Monitoring Framework, available as an appendix to this annual report.

The framework links and complements existing partnership plans and reporting mechanisms and will ensure we are able to demonstrate the impact across all our well-being objectives over the course of the Plan.



Further Collaborative Working

Regional Substance Use

NPT and Swansea PSB continue to take a collaborative approach to substance use and drug related deaths in the local area. The Boards are overseeing a new Alliance approach to substance use across the region and are preparing to receive the findings of a Drugs Commission Report which will set out some recommendations and will inform the Alliance approach as it develops.

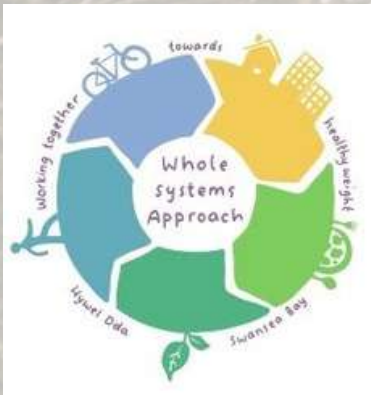
Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales

In partnership with Executive Directors of Public Health across Wales and their teams, Public Health Wales are being funded by the Health Foundation to provide a 3 year programme across Wales supporting PSBs to deliver on their Well-being Plans.

The programme focuses on local partners developing and sharing learning around systems approach tools to work on the wider determinants of health, building on established programmes in England and Scotland.

The wider determinants of health are the social, environmental and economic factors that affect health and wellbeing. For lasting positive change, we need to understand and respond to the complex systems influencing these factors and our health. Whole systems approaches include a set of tools and frameworks to tackle these complex issues and are closely aligned to the five ways of working and the PSB's well-being plan.

NPT PSB partners have been actively involved in the programme so far and are considering how these approaches can help us tackle some of the big issues our communities are facing, Following a recent regional meeting it has been agreed that Swansea and NPT will work together with the Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight team using system approach tools to explore the collaborative opportunities around 'Access to food'. More details on the next page.



A Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight

During 2024-25, Neath Port Talbot PSB has been working with the Regional Whole Systems Approach to a Healthy Weight team. The team is working with Public Services Boards (PSBs) and the two University Health Boards in Swansea Bay and Hywel Dda to implement the 'leadership and enabling change' theme of the national Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales strategy (2019). The work of the team recognises that one of the key issues affecting our health as a population right now is excess weight with only a third of adults in Swansea Bay a healthy weight and 3 in 10 of our children starting school living with excess weight.

Potential Sub-system Priorities

School & Pre-school physical activity
Active Travel
Recreational Opportunities for Physical Activity
School Food
Advertising & Marketing of Food
Affordability of Food
Availability of Unhealthy Food
Breastfeeding

In early 2023, a series of 5 county-level workshops were held to bring together members of the Public Service Boards and wider partners to map and better understand the causes of excess weight in the region. The two resulting 'system maps' one for physical activity and the other for food contained 8 potential priority sub-systems listed in the table below.

This process highlighted that the causes of excess weight are complex and shaped by the world around us. The current system isn't delivering the health and wellbeing outcomes that we want for our communities and that they want for themselves. Changing these outcomes involves changing the system in favour of a healthy weight environment.

During the Autumn and Winter of 2024, the team set about starting this process and again engaged with PSBs in a series of 5 prioritisation workshops, to narrow the focus from the 8 potential sub-systems to a single priority. In December, access to food which includes affordability and availability emerged as the regional priority for collaborative work for the coming year and beyond.

A Whole Systems Approach with access to food as a priority will contribute to the goal of a sustainable food system and good food for all across our region and aligns with Neath Port Talbot's Wellbeing Plan priorities for 2025-26.

Next steps

Work will be undertaken in 2025-26 to refine the area of focus within the access to food priority. The feasibility of progressing the work jointly with Swansea PSB will be explored. As a first step in this next phase, the team are currently undertaking a Social Network Analysis to gain insight to the relationships between individuals and organisations across the regional food system. Additionally, 23 PSB members have expressed an interest in becoming part of a regional Learning Network. This will be started by the team with the aim of sharing learning and building systems thinking and systems working in practice. It is hoped that over time, this network will be co-created and self-sustaining.

Health Impact Workshop to inform the NPT Replacement Local Development Plan

The PSB facilitated a Health Impact workshop to help inform the Preferred Strategy stage of the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).

Neath Port Talbot Council is preparing an RLDP to cover the period 2023-2038. As part of the preparation of the RLDP, the local authority undertakes an extensive consultation process, and produces an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) which incorporates a proportionate Health Impact Assessment (HIA). In order to further consider the potential health impacts of the RLDP on vulnerable population groups, the wider determinants of health, and on health inequalities, a rapid participatory stakeholder HIA workshop was undertaken in March 2025. The workshop involved PSB partners and wider partners with knowledge and expertise of the health and well-being of communities in NPT.

The findings of this workshop will help to inform the next stage of the RLDP, and will form the basis of a Health Technical Group to further support the consultation process. The workshop built on a variety of evidence that had already been collated by Neath Port Talbot Council, the Public Services Board, and Swansea Bay University Health Board and concentrated on gathering stakeholder knowledge and insight and therefore adds a qualitative element to the evidence gathered to inform the development of the RLDP.

Town and Community Councils

The PSB continues to include representation from Town and Community Councils at its Board meetings. The three highest budget councils have a duty to comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Information on how they contribute to the Well-being Goals are set out in their Annual Reports.



Get In Touch

Thanks for reading!

You can find out more about the [NPT PSB](#) here

If you have any comments or you would like to be involved in our work please email us psb@npt.gov.uk

