

Summary of the inaugural Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales learning group event

Wednesday 5 June and Thursday 6 June

Cardiff

Purpose: to provide a summary of the event for participants

Background

The [Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales](#) (SPWW) programme is funded by the Health Foundation and will provide a national resource to support Public Services Boards (PSB) in taking a systems approach in their work to influence wider determinants of health as they implement their well-being plans, sharing learning between PSBs and across the UK.

After a design period in collaboration with Executive Directors of Public Health, Public Services Boards, Welsh Government, and others, participants were welcomed to the first Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales learning group event.

Participants signed up to be part of one of three national learning groups, based on existing well-being plans:

- Climate and Nature Emergency
- Poverty and Inequalities
- Neighbourhood well-being

Objectives

The event had four main objectives:

- To move from a broad theme (Climate & Nature Emergency, Poverty & Inequalities or Neighbourhood Well-being) to a more defined system-of-interest.
- To come together as PSB members, to network and build relationships.
- To share more about the programme and offer of support from the SPWW programme and discuss level of commitment, and expectations from participants and PSBs.
- To introduce participants to a range of systems thinking tools and methods.

Feedback

At the event, there were 45 representatives linked to 11 PSBs, along with representatives from the Health Foundation, the Office for the Future Generations Commissioner, Healthy Weight Healthy Wales Whole System Approach, Public Health Wales, and Natural Resources Wales.

Over the course of two days, participants were taken through a series of group activities, along with presentations from the Health Foundation, The Office for the Future Generations Commissioner, and the programme team.

Day One

On the first day, participants were invited to reflect on how their life experiences influence the way they think and act and how they saw the programme fitting into their work and the work of their PSB. Participants also considered the context in which their PSB sits, with exercises such as asset and network mapping aiming to help them to consider where they can influence within their PSB and the unique strengths of their PSB.

Draft learning agreements and programme resources were also shared with participants for comment and discussion. The learning agreements set out expectations and commitments from PSBs, learners and the SPWW programme over the next 2-years. Participants fed back what they'd need from their PSB for the SPWW programme to be successful. Following consolidation of these comments, draft learning agreements will be shared with participants.

During day one, key learning emerged about how each PSB operates, where there are similarities and where there are differences. These insights will be analysed and shared with participants, as well as incorporated into the SPWW programme design.

Day Two

On day two, the SPWW programme team gave a presentation about Systems Thinking in Practice, which laid the groundwork for the afternoon's activities. Over the rest of day, participants worked within their learning group to narrow the scope of their broad theme (e.g Climate and Nature Emergency) and set a boundary around a system-of-interest.

The first step in this process was for participants to explore issues most relevant to their PSB, in relation to their learning group theme.

Five issue maps were produced:

- Two for Poverty & Inequalities
- Two for Climate & Nature Emergency
- One for Neighbourhood Well-being

The issues identified for Poverty & Inequalities and Climate & Nature Emergency were consolidated and participants were asked to vote of the top three issues relevant to their PSB.

Five priority issues were selected:

Theme	Priority issues
Poverty and inequalities	Childhood poverty Fair work
Climate and nature emergency	Behaviour change (at an individual and organisational level) Skills for a green transition
Neighbourhood well-being	Connective transport

Participants were asked to undertake a rapid mapping exercise to understand which factors were related to their priority issue – and to ensure they were considering the root causes of an issue.

Finally, using the factors generated in the previous exercise, participants were asked to consider which factors are under their PSB's direct control or influence, to help define a system-of-interest.

At the end of day two, it was apparent that defining a system-of-interest would require further input and time, therefore a workshop has been arranged for each learning group to develop their system-of-interest.

Next Steps

Outputs from the two-day event will be synthesised and shared with participants in a report. Workshops to define each learning group's system-of-interest will take place on 17 and 18 July and calendar invites have been sent out to each learning group. After this, it is envisaged some participants will take their proposed system-of-interest back to their PSB for agreement.

Once feedback on the draft learning contracts has been collated, we will share these with you and discuss the best way for these to be shared with your respective PSBs.

We'd like to thank everyone once again for your participation and are looking forward to seeing you again soon.

