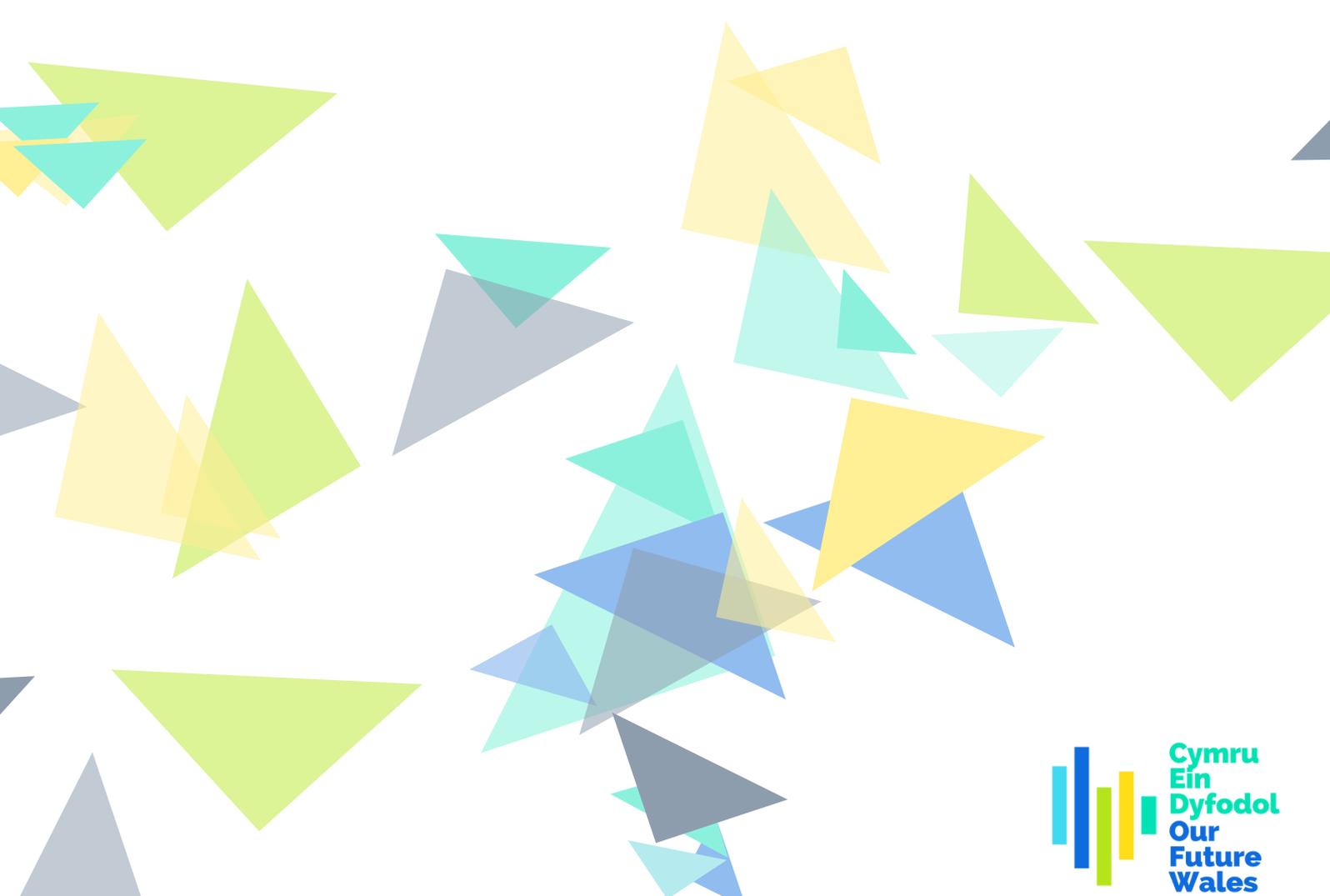


Future Generations Report

Welsh Government Policy

Recommendations



Top 20

Policy Recommendations

Welsh Government should...

Demonstrate how they are applying well-being economics in all of their policy, funding arrangements and interactions with the public, private and voluntary sector. Welsh Government should ensure they are meeting the Act's aspirations of equitable distribution of wealth, health and well-being, while protecting the planet's resources for future generations and other species.

Set a national target for modal shift to enable people to adopt low carbon modes of travel over the next decade. This target should be linked to the milestones developed to support the national indicators.

Establish a national vision for Wales to become the most eco-literate nation in the world.

Develop a national wellness system to improve the nation's health and wellness and reduce demand on services.

Commit to large-scale habitat restoration, creation and connectivity throughout Wales, which includes setting statutory targets for nature recovery and specific species recovery measures to help prevent extinction.

Establish a cross-party, cross-sectoral Commission to create a long-term vision and strategy for the Welsh public sector of 2050 specifically focusing on key future trends including (but not limited to): opportunities and challenges posed by the digital revolution; the ageing population; the public sector workforce of the future; the climate and nature emergencies.

Explore opportunities to pilot a four day working week, aligned with universal basic income, building on evidence gathered from pilots in other countries.

Establish a national vision for lifelong learning

Find a way to fully incorporate the principles of the United Nations' enshrined Right to Adequate Housing into Welsh housing Policy.

Set out a long term investment plan of how they will fund the climate emergency and support more ambitious commitments and targets for sectors within their control.

Commit to introducing the 20 minute neighbourhood concept for all towns and cities in Wales; creating healthier, happier communities fit for a zero-carbon future.

Establish a Ministry of Possibilities, based on the United Arab Emirates model, bringing the brightest and the best from all levels of government and public service, the private sector and voluntary sector together, to find innovative solutions to current or future challenges.



Top 20

Policy Recommendations

Welsh Government should...

Welsh Government should ensure that its cultural agencies including CADW, Visit Wales, Creative Wales and national bodies like Arts Council of Wales, National Museum Wales and the National Library are working together to better make the connections between how culture and language are addressing the climate and nature emergencies. The sector should be supported in this work by all government departments and wider public service.

Bring all sectors together as part of a coordinated national mission to deliver education fit for the future. This should be funded through the creation of a Welsh Education Tax, directed towards the transition to the new Curriculum for Wales and provision for lifelong learning.

Build on programmes, such as Flying Start, to tackle Adverse Childhood Experiences; to make early intervention and childhood adversity a priority. Welsh Government should set out a clear national strategy to empower and encourage all key public services to deliver effective, sustainable and evidence-based early intervention.

Set standards to ensure people can access natural green space within 300 metres of their home.

Consider how it can respond to future trends (such as increasing automation, our ageing population and climate change) in ways that reduce inequalities rather than perpetuating them.

Use the precedent as set out by the recast of the whole planning system in depth to realign other policy areas, such as education and housing, with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Seek to adopt a placemaking approach for community programmes, facilities and services aligned to the placemaking principles contained within Planning Policy Wales.

Lead the way in instilling values kindness at every level of government and in public policy, following the Scottish Government example, and in seeking to implement The Well-being of Future Generations Act.



Top 20

Process Recommendations

Welsh Government should...

Introduce a 'Real Life Fast Tack' programme within Civil Service and Public Sector. In order to bring a variety of skills, perspectives and experiences to the public services of the future, Welsh Government should work with public bodies to introduce a 'Real Life Fast Track' programme, seeking to recruit people who are experts on their own lives.

Appoint a Minister for Prevention, with responsibility for taking a whole-government, coherent and evidence-based approach to investment in prevention.

Put in place mechanism for the double test - the 'what' and the 'how' - to how the Act is being applied.

Put in place arrangements for increasing capacity knowledge and constructive challenge on implementing the Act within Government.

Top-slice budgets for specific spending on prevention within the cross-cutting priorities set by Welsh Government that reinforce their well-being objectives, overseen by the Minister for Prevention.

Assess the carbon impact of their spend, especially capital spend and should also publish details on the overall carbon impact of their budget and major investment/infrastructure decisions.

Ensure that all criteria for public funding is required to demonstrate how the WFG Act has been applied.

Set an example to public bodies by more explicitly showing how policies across departments are integrated, including demonstrating how the costs spent by one department are providing benefits or savings to another.

In seeking to close the 'implementation gap', they should clearly set out how they are applying the ways of working in how they design, resource, deliver and evaluate the implementation of policy and legislation. This would include involving a range of people with lived experiences, practical knowledge of delivery on the ground and integrating their aspirations with the well-being objectives of others.

Demonstrate how they're using their definition of prevention on their preventive spend within government and work with other public bodies to do the same.



Top 20

Process Recommendations

Welsh Government should...

Avoid establishing new governance arrangements without consolidating existing structures. Any new governance structure that is created should set out clearly how it is assisting integrated policy making and service delivery, including setting out clear guidelines at the outset on how that body should interact with others to achieve local and national well-being objectives. Assembly committees should scrutinise these decisions before new governance structures are put in place.

Explicitly reference the Well-being of Future Generations Act as part of the terms of references for any new reviews, commissions, bodies or governance structures.

Reform the approach to consultation to specifically ask respondents to give views on how the proposals contribute to meeting the 5 ways of working and the 7 national well-being goals.

Set out clearly in the annual reports how the corporate areas of change are being used to meet well-being objectives.

Review the approach taken by inspectorates in Wales to ensure it is aligned with the Act.

Review public service performance frameworks across Government to ensure they are aligned with the 5 ways of working and promote the sustainable development principle.

Ensure remit letters to national public bodies explicitly reference the requirement to contribute to their own and national wellbeing objectives.

Give a higher priority to the work of PSBs through allocation of funding and recognition of them as the key local delivery agents for meeting the national well-being goals. Welsh Government should put in place arrangements to ensure all other boards and bodies delivering policy or services relating to well-being are aligned with and contributing to the work of the PSB

Ensure that the role of civil service representatives on PSBs are empowered to work across government to resolve issues and concerns effecting local delivery and ensure alignment between government policy and local well-being plans.

Stop short term funding in ways that expect results within short term timeframes, which is a barrier to innovation and transformational change

All Policy Recommendations



All Policy Recommendations

Leadership and Implementation

Welsh Government led the world in legislating for sustainable development when they introduced the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. They now need to lead the way in matching their ambition with reality, challenging and changing the Welsh public sector culture to match the aspiration of the Act by showing strong leadership and commitment.

Welsh Government play a critical role in the success of this large scale cultural change programme driven by the legislation, not just because they are a major public body covered by the Act themselves, but because whether or not they demonstrate the principles of the Act has a significant impact on what other public bodies do.

Without a purposeful cultural change by Welsh Government, we will not act fast enough or effectively enough to meet the needs of our future generations in Wales.

Welsh Government should...

Lead the way in instilling values kindness at every level of government and in public policy, following the Scottish Government example, and in seeking to implement The Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Appoint a Minister for Prevention, with responsibility for taking a whole-government, coherent and evidence-based approach to investment in prevention.

Establish a Ministry of Possibilities, based on the United Arab Emirates model, bringing the brightest and the best from all levels of government and public service, the private sector and voluntary sector together, to find innovative solutions to current or future challenges.

Top-slice budgets for specific spending on prevention within the cross-cutting priorities set by Welsh Government that reinforce their well-being objectives, overseen by the Minister for Prevention.

Establish a cross-party, cross-sectoral Commission to create a long-term vision and strategy for the Welsh public sector of 2050 specifically focusing on key future trends including (but not limited to): opportunities and challenges posed by the digital revolution; the ageing population; the public sector workforce of the future; the climate and nature emergencies.

In seeking to close the 'implementation gap', they should clearly set out how they are applying the ways of working in how they design, resource, deliver and evaluate the implementation of policy and legislation. This would include involving a range of people with lived experiences, practical knowledge of delivery on the ground and integrating their aspirations with the well-being objectives of others.

All Policy Recommendations

Procurement

Public bodies in Wales spend over £6 billion each year procuring a range of goods, services and works; this represents nearly a third of total devolved Welsh annual expenditure, and it is estimated that over the next decade Welsh public services will spend over £60 billion. Imagine what it could mean if this money was being spent on buying things AND improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of people and communities in Wales?

Wales has the opportunity to think about how and where to spend that money in the interest of current and future generations.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act should be the overarching framework for public procurement in Wales. Procurement is one of the seven corporate areas for change in the Act statutory guidance (Shared Purpose: Shared Future, SPSF 1: Core Guidance) and it must be a key area of focus for public bodies in meeting their obligations under the Act.

Welsh Government should...

Approach all procurement decisions through the lens of the Act – by applying the Five Ways of Working, considering their well-being objectives and/or steps and how to maximise contribution to the seven well-being goals at the very beginning of the process even at pre-procurement stage.

Provide clear evidence for how their procurement activities are supporting the delivery of their well-being objectives.

Include specific contract clauses linked to well-being objectives/goals in every public sector contract and framework, using social value measures to capture impact.

Explore how they can use budgets to give greater long-term financial certainty to other public and voluntary sector bodies to ease the short-termism challenges faced by procurement. This could include facilitating longer-term (minimum 5 years) contracts with break clauses built in to allow ongoing flexibility.

Provide clear guidance and leadership to other public bodies, as well as monitoring and assessing how they are considering the Act in their procurement activities.

All Policy Recommendations

A Prosperous Wales

Our economic system is broken. We have seen widening economic inequalities, especially as the very rich get richer, along with increasing levels of insecurity, homelessness, in-work poverty, mental health conditions and loneliness. As trust in institutions declines, people turn inwards or against each other; deepening divisions within our society.

Our planet is also on the brink of the sixth mass extinction, as catastrophic climate and ecological breakdown get closer and closer. In the last 40 years, humanity has gone from using one planet's worth of natural resources each year, to using one and a half. We are on course to be consuming three planet's worth by 2050. Underpinning these issues is the way our current economic model prioritises profit over the well-being of people and planet.

In line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015), Welsh Government should demonstrate how they are applying well-being economics in all of their policy, funding arrangements and interactions with the public, private and voluntary sector. Welsh Government should ensure they are meeting the Act's aspirations of equitable distribution of wealth, health and well-being, while protecting the planet's resources for future generations and other species.

Welsh Government should...

Demonstrate how the natural environment is incorporated into all economic and political decision-making.

Use all policy levers in its relationship with the private sector to develop a shared mission to deliver all of Wales' well-being goals.

Continue to lead the way on recycling, and implement its ambition to become a zero-waste, net-zero carbon country.

Put in place arrangements to provide practical support to businesses across Wales, working closely with the public sector and the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner, to jointly work towards meeting Wales' well-being goals.

Align the Foundational Economy Challenge Fund with the proposed Social Partnership (Wales) Bill that is seeking to strengthen social partnership arrangements.

Adopt a whole government approach and work collectively with businesses, trade unions, the voluntary sector, communities and people across Wales to implement a low carbon society for current and future generations that leaves no one behind.

Explore opportunities to pilot a four day working week, aligned with universal basic income, building on evidence gathered from pilots in other countries.

Ensure it provides clarity to public bodies on how the Social Partnership (Wales) Bill and the socio-economic duty align with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Ensure everyone in Wales has access to reliable digital and internet connectivity; and work with businesses, voluntary organisations and communities to help achieve this.

All Policy Recommendations

A Resilient Wales

Our natural environment is vital for our well-being. Wild and natural landscapes sustain us; they give us clean water to drink and fresh air to breathe, they store carbon and protect our homes from flooding, and they can help make us happy and healthy. Nature gives us the foundations for our economy, energy system and our food and farming. Pollinators alone, for example, are worth more than £430m a year to UK agriculture. Nature's health is intrinsically linked to our own.

We are in the midst of an ecological and biodiversity crisis on par with the climate emergency. We know that 60% of species are in decline and that one million species globally are threatened with extinction; including 40% of insects globally. Without targeted intervention in Wales, lapwings are now at risk of extinction, and red squirrels could similarly be lost.

Welsh Government should commit to large-scale habitat restoration, creation and connectivity throughout Wales, which includes setting statutory targets for nature recovery and specific species recovery measures to help prevent extinction.

Welsh Government should...

Aim to increase spending year on year in line with the recommendations of the UK Committee on Climate Change as set out in my 10 point plan on the climate and nature emergency. (Also a recommendation in CH2)

Develop a food system strategy for Wales linking together all parts of the food system from farm to fork.

Work in cohesion with The Office of the Future Generations Commissioner to ensure there is guidance and effective accountability mechanism on the reporting of the section 6 duty and the well-being goal: A Resilient Wales.

Work with public bodies to deliver 20% tree canopy cover in every town and city in Wales by 2030.

Commit to prohibiting the use of pesticides by public bodies and set annual targets towards phasing out the use of chemical pesticides on land.

Set standards to ensure people can access natural green space within 300 metres of their home. (Also a recommendation in CH3: A Wales of Cohesive Communities)

All Policy Recommendations

A Wales of Cohesive Communities

Cohesive and connected communities are an important part of people's individual well-being, and more people now realise the value of kindness, community and connections on well-being. Communities in Wales in 2050 will be well-connected (including digitally), will be able to adapt to change, and will be focused around the well-being of the people who live there. People will be trusted and empowered to do the things that matter to them, and they will have good access to key services such as education, health, housing, retail, transport and community safety.

Welsh Government should seek to adopt a placemaking approach for community programmes, facilities and services aligned to the placemaking principles contained within Planning Policy Wales.

Welsh Government should...

Ensure its loneliness strategy is identifying how it can make a contributing to meet its well-being objectives and Wales' well-being goals.

Ensure the socio-economic duty aligns to The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (Also a recommendation in CH3: A Prosperous Wales).

Ensure everyone in Wales has access to reliable digital and internet connectivity; and work with business and voluntary organisations to help achieve this.

Support public bodies to work better together to plan, prepare and shift their activity and resources towards prevention; to help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Set standards to ensure people can access biodiverse green spaces within 300 metres of their home. (Also a recommendation in CH3: A Resilient Wales)

Support public bodies to deliver a more integrated approach to service delivery in rural areas.

Commit to introducing the 20 minute neighbourhood concept for all towns and cities in Wales; creating healthier, happier communities fit for a zero-carbon future. This means strong, well connected neighbourhoods where people live within a 20 minute walking distance of key everyday services, and prioritising mix-type development which combines housing, transport links, public services, workplaces and recreational facilities.

Require applications for the community facilities programme to demonstrate how they will contribute to local well-being objectives.

Support the establishment of two or three pilot landscape-scale, community stewardship projects, building on the lessons learned from the Skyline project. (Also a recommendation in CH3: A Resilient Wales)

All Policy Recommendations

A Globally Responsible Wales

The daily actions and the decisions that we make in Wales have a direct impact on the World around us. And in the words of our Patron Saint David “gwnewch y pethau bychain” (do the small things), our small country has always appreciated how we can collectively make a big difference.

Wales was the first country to become a Fair Trade Nation in 2008, and was a founding signatory of the Under2 Coalition, a global community of national and regional governments committed to ambitious climate action in line with the Paris Agreement. Wales was also the first country in the UK to declare a Climate Emergency.

As the first and only country in the World to legislate for well-being, Wales has a unique story to share with other countries. Internationally, our way of doing things is continuing to inspire and impact change.

Welsh Government should create a vision and plan to ensure Wales become the most eco literate country in the world

Welsh Government should...

Be proactive in sharing its approach on delivering the Sustainable Development Goals within the rest of the UK and internationally.

Build links and alliances with other countries who are leading on sustainability and put in place mechanisms to develop new ideas and share best practice.

Review its 'Nation of Sanctuary Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan' in light of evidence from the ACE Support Hub, regarding the adversities experienced by child refugee and asylum seekers.

Consider implications of the EU Withdrawal Agreement, specifically in relation to the impact it may have on meeting their well-being objectives.

Continue to support and build upon the successes of Wales for Africa and Plant!, that demonstrate Wales' commitment to being globally responsible.

Ensure the International Strategy is implemented by all Ministerial portfolios and work with the business and voluntary sector and civic society to maximise its opportunities.

Ensure it provides clarity to public bodies on how the Social Partnership (Wales) Bill and the socio-economic duty align with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

All Policy Recommendations

A Healthier Wales

Good health is one of the main building blocks of wellness and opportunity. Enabling people to live the highest quality of life they can includes supporting them to have a lifestyle that maintains good physical and mental health, through creating places and environments that support healthy lifestyles and ensuring there are effective services to support people when they need care.

Meeting the requirements of the Act would create the conditions for people to stay well, enabling them to lead better lives, requiring less health care and social care, and therefore, reducing pressure on a range of services.

Future generations are facing different problems from when the NHS was designed 70 years ago, such as air pollution, extreme weather, a growing obesity problem, disconnect with nature, feelings of loneliness and isolation, and declining mental health. These are issues that cannot simply be treated in a healthcare or clinical setting.

Welsh Government should develop a national wellness system to improve the nation's health and wellness and reduce demand on services.

Welsh Government should...

Change performance management arrangements with public bodies to encourage collaboration to keep people well and reduce demand.

Use the wider determinants of health to enable a whole-system approach to improving health and wellness.

Explore new approaches to investment in prevention, including whether funds raised from new taxes (such as the potential social care levy) could be used for investment in prevention.

Appoint a Minister for Prevention, with responsibility for taking a whole-government, coherent and evidence-based approach to investment in prevention. (Also a recommendation in CH2)

Change funding arrangements across sectors and services to encourage collaboration to keep people well and reduce demand - using increased investment in preventative activities as a first step.

All Policy Recommendations

A More Equal Wales

Equality is everyone's issue. Despite progress in some areas, such as increases in employment, a narrowing of educational attainment gaps for some, and an increase in levels of political participation, we still see levels of inequality that are frankly unacceptable in the 21st century. There is a lot still to do in Wales to ensure everyone is free from discrimination and can enjoy their basic human rights.

Whilst there has been significant progress in some areas of life over recent decades, the fact remains that our society in the 21st century is far less equal than it should be.

Poverty should be a thing of the past, not a thing of the future. Future generations should live in communities where poverty is minimal and decreasing, therefore enabling equality of opportunity and equality of outcome.

Welsh Government should consider how it can respond to future trends (such as increasing automation, our ageing population and climate change) in ways that reduce inequalities rather than perpetuating them.

Welsh Government should...

Take bold steps to tackle the inequalities experienced by Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in Wales - including through a Race Equality Strategy.

Implement the recommendations of the Gender Equality Review with a particular focus on the implications of future trends as well as current challenges.

Set challenging targets for public sector recruitment, ensuring people with diverse characteristics are visibly represented in government at all levels. This approach should recognise the importance of lived experience of disadvantage as a valid recruitment criteria. A Real Life Fast Track should be introduced as part of government recruitment. (See Chapter 2 recommendation on the 'Real Life Fast Track').

Ensure that the new school curriculum in Wales adequately equips children to become ethical informed citizens of a diverse Wales; especially in the context of the apparent growth in hate crime exacerbated by Brexit.

Ensure that it uses every lever available to reduce inequalities and end poverty in Wales, maximising opportunities across all of the well-being goals.

Ensure that it is using levers such as the Public Sector Equality Duty; socio-economic duty and the Social Partnerships (Wales) Bill, in ways that align to the requirements of The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 - particularly setting, delivering and reporting on well-being objectives.

All Policy Recommendations

A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

Culture is part of the DNA of Wales. We were ahead of the rest of the world when we put culture at the forefront of our approach to sustainable development by introducing it as one of the statutory dimensions of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Welsh Government should ensure that its cultural agencies including CADW, Visit Wales, Creative Wales and national bodies like Arts Council of Wales, National Museum Wales and the National Library are working together to better make the connections between how culture and language are addressing the climate and nature emergencies. The sector should be supported in this work by all government departments and wider public service.

Welsh Government should...

Put long term funding commitments in place to support cultural development and the creative industries across Wales.

Ensure the revised national culture strategy is aligned with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and fully reflects the sustainable development principle.

Lead on a cultural landscape partnership programme between cultural and environmental sectors with innovative approaches developed to mitigate key issues identified.

Develop a large scale approach to ensuring cultural facilities, programmes and venues are accessible to staff, audiences, participants and cultural professionals; including specific capital pots in place to deal with overarching building developments that are needed.

Develop cultural partnerships akin to the Fusion/Cyfuno model to support skill development and employability. Consider how this could support the national mission in education, set out in the section on Skills in Chapter 5.

Demonstrate that investment in culture is considered important; social return on investment is understood and money is invested in the prevention agenda to support this.

Develop cultural corridors across Wales that encourage public, private and voluntary sectors to connect cultural and creative sites, programmes and institutions to widen well-being opportunities, reach and prosperity.

Develop clear, sustainable pathways for people to access and achieve success in the cultural professions.

Develop a national strategic communications campaign to promote the benefits of culture on the wider determinants of health.

Ensure that the Welsh language is fully mainstreamed into all Welsh Government policies, guidance and strategies.

Ensure adequate funding for the Welsh language in order to reach the 2050 Strategy targets.

All Policy Recommendations

Housing

Having a good quality home that meets our needs is vital. It influences our physical and mental well-being, our communities and the environment around us. Poor-quality housing is strongly associated with inequality, poverty and limited life chances. The buildings we live in typically exist for a century or more, and so the decisions we make today will have a profound impact on the well-being of future generations – both directly on their living conditions and more broadly, Wales’s carbon emissions, our landscape, economy and communities.

The current renewed focus on housing is UK wide, and is being driven by the public as well as political leadership. This is due to the obvious need to decarbonise our homes to meet emission targets. But, also because housing shortages are impacting many more people than before - unaffordability, lack of social housing, the insecure private rented sector and homelessness are issues that have become more visible and arguably have arisen because long-term thinking planning and a focus on preventing problems from occurring has been absent or not done effectively.

Welsh Government should find a way to fully incorporate the principles of the United Nations-enshrined Right to Adequate Housing into Welsh housing Policy.

Welsh Government should...

Within the next year set out how a long term plan on how they will fund the decarbonisation of homes in line with carbon emissions targets.

Require all publicly funded housing developments to be carbon neutral and demonstrate how they are meeting the broader requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Explore the use of financial levers through the Social Housing grant and Housing Innovation programme to encourage innovation in developing intergenerational housing, and communities and use taxation levers to incentivise intergenerational house-sharing.

As part of this vision and strategy implement the recommendations of the Affordable Housing Review, the Independent Review on Decarbonising Welsh Homes and the report from the Homelessness Action Group.

Support and scale up the development of social enterprises to provide jobs and skills in new methods of construction based on models established by Down to Earth and Cartrefi Conwy.

Work with organisations and communities to set a vision and long-term strategy for the future of housing in Wales.

Ensure that Design Quality requirements should be updated to reflect the future in terms of smart-homes and assisted living technology.

All Policy Recommendations

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are specific traumatic events that have happened to someone under the age of 18. They include problems such as physical, emotional and sexual abuse, growing up in a home where there is drug abuse, alcohol abuse, domestic violence, parental separation, incarceration or mental illness.

Preventing and mitigating the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences is a cross-cutting theme and is essential to future generations' health and well-being.

These are complex issues that need to be addressed collectively, as no one can resolve or respond effectively to Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact, in isolation.

Welsh Government should build on programmes, such as Flying Start, to tackle Adverse Childhood Experiences; to make early intervention and childhood adversity a priority. Welsh Government should set out a clear national strategy to empower and encourage all key public services to deliver effective, sustainable and evidence-based early intervention.

Welsh Government should...

Align long term investment in services with long term strategies for prevention of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Build capability and capacity within local services to generate high-quality evidence of what works in breaking intergenerational cycles. The routine use of this evidence should become part of 'business as usual' alongside investing in and scaling up what works with increased use of implementation science to ensure success.

Invest more in the first 1000 days work, ensuring interventions are evidenced based and monitoring of impact is holistic.

Ensure that school exclusions become a thing of the past with more focused and dedicated work on how we make this happen.

All Policy Recommendations

Transport

New ways of planning for transport and mobility in Wales are fundamental to the achievement of the well-being goals - particularly a Resilient Wales, a Prosperous Wales, a Wales of Cohesive Communities, a More Equal Wales and a Healthier Wales. Mobility is an important part of everyone's lives. If we get it right for our most vulnerable citizens, we will get it right for everyone, with a positive impact on our ability to reduce air pollution and meet carbon reduction targets.

Meeting the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 will provide travel options that are low or zero carbon, reducing air pollution and promoting environmental resilience. It will also help equalise opportunities for all and play a role in supporting healthy lifestyles, improving community cohesion, and creating a well-connected Wales.

Welsh Government should set a national target for modal shift to enable people to adopt low carbon modes of travel over the next decade. This target should be linked to the milestones developed to support the national indicators.

Welsh Government should...

Adopt an approach to transport planning that supports 20-minute neighbourhoods i.e. with good local, sustainable transport and active travel options.

Explore the business case for introducing free public transport for young people in Wales.

Use financial and tax-raising powers to explore all levers to constrain current transport patterns and achieve ambitious modal shift including: increasing fuel duty and company car tax; restricting parking in city centres; and introducing a distance-based charge for driving within five miles in urban areas.

Explore the potential of Mobility as a Service (MaaS) to provide flexible alternative transport solutions.

Transport for Wales Rail Services should ensure it undertakes a comprehensive equality impact assessment at the planning and design stages for any new transport infrastructure. This should take into account access of current services as well as understanding how new transport will affect the different mobility pattern requirements of different groups.

Fully integrate transport, housing and land use planning to minimise the need for people to travel.

Allocate at least 50% of capital transport spend on improving bus and train services, providing long-term funding wherever possible.

All Policy Recommendations

Planning

The way we plan, design and build our communities and infrastructure for the future is critical in addressing long-term challenges and ensuring well-being nationally and locally. Getting planning right can help us to meet a number of our well-being goals, by helping protect and enhance our ecosystems, strengthening our communities by ensuring they can get together and access the right services, facilitating healthy and active lifestyles, supporting a modal shift and identifying land for clean energy production and new ways of working and living.

What communities want and need in the future will fundamentally change as our planet requires rapid decarbonisation and restoration of nature, demographic trends such as urbanisation and an ageing population continue, and as technology continues to change the way we live and work.

Welsh Government should use the precedent as set out by the recast of the whole planning system in depth to realign other policy areas, such as education and housing, with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Welsh Government should...

Ensure a comprehensive Equality Impact Assessment is undertaken at the development of Local Development Plans and that any new development is demonstrating how it is addressing equality consideration identified in the Equality Impact Assessment.

Use financial and tax-raising powers to explore all levers to constrain current transport patterns and achieve ambitious modal shift including: increasing fuel duty and company car tax; restricting parking in city centres; and introducing a distance-based charge for driving within five miles in urban areas.

Provide additional resources to the Design Commission for Wales to increase the number of applications they can provide advice on; specifically on the application of the The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, as well as on the revisions and the production of new Local Development Plans. Welsh Government should also consider imposing requirements that developments over a certain size undergo this process.

Review the impact, in five years time, that Planning Policy Wales 10 and The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are having on changing the presumption on which planning law is based. This should be reviewed so that the bar is raised above 'do no harm' into ensuring that only developments which maximise contribution to the goals are authorised.

Review progress on the adoption of Strategic Development Plans and consider making it mandatory if it is not progressed within a reasonable timeframe.

Continue exploring how financial levers (including the newly devolved stamp duty tax and green finance finding for major infrastructure projects) can be used to bring back adequate resource in planning.

Put in place mechanisms to better monitor the outcomes delivered by the planning system aligned with the Act.

All Policy Recommendations

Skills

The world is changing, perhaps more quickly than at any time in living memory. These changes are having profound implications to the future of work, community and well-being. Providing people with education and the opportunity to develop the right set of skills for their future is widely accepted as a significant determinant of life outcomes including health, socio-economic position and life expectancy. We need to react positively to these changes to ensure people have the right skills for our future Wales.

Welsh Government should bring all sectors together as part of a coordinated national mission to deliver education fit for the future. This should be funded through the creation of a Welsh Education Tax, directed towards the transition to the new Curriculum for Wales and provision for lifelong learning.

Welsh Government should...

Radically rethink qualifications at age 16, towards assessments that focus on diversity and are centred around pupils, not testing, reflecting the aspirations of the new Curriculum for Wales 2022.

Increase teaching practitioners and support teachers to access continuous professional learning, including access to properly developed content and best practice approaches across and outside Wales, to maximise the potential of the new Curriculum for Wales.

Establish an intergenerational skills switch programme.

Prioritise mental health and well-being education in the delivery of the Curriculum for Wales to help nurture a generation of emotionally resilient children.

Implement the recommendations of the Gender Equality Review with a particular focus on the implications of future trends as well as current challenges

Use taxation powers and the economic contract to incentivise entrepreneurs, large businesses, micro-businesses and Small and Medium Enterprises to work directly with schools as part of a Wales wide programme.

Direct the new Commission for Tertiary Education and Research to produce a national vision for lifelong learning that helps us to meet the national well-being goals. The Commission should be established in a way that reflects the principles of The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The national vision should include development of a new Skills Framework for Wales, as recommended by 'Wales 4.0 Delivering Economic Transformation for a Better Future of Work' to better match jobs to people and people to jobs.

In collaboration with local education authorities, shift their focus towards prevention across schools in Wales to reduce the number of children excluded from school, helping to improve the life trajectory of children who are at an increased risk of inclusion due to inequality; and help break lifelong cycles of disadvantage, loneliness and adversity.

Create a vision and plan to ensure Wales becomes the most eco-literate country in the world.

Create an action plan to develop the future skills needed to deliver public services in 2050.

All Policy Recommendations

Decarbonisation

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing future generations.

The World Economic Forum Global Risks Report 2020 clearly shows that climate change is the stand-out long-term risk the world faces, with failure to mitigate and adapt to climate change as the key concern. Decarbonisation is a cross-cutting issue central to all our work and vital for future generations. Adapting to climate impacts will need to be a priority including how we respond to the risks of increased flooding, severe weather events and increased temperatures on people, ecosystems and the built environment.

By 2050 businesses, public services, the voluntary sector and government will have worked together to achieve the target of reducing emissions to zero whilst contributing to all national well-being goals.

Welsh Government should set out a long term investment plan of how they will fund the climate emergency and support more ambitious commitments and targets for sectors within their control. (see related recommendations in Chapter 4: Transport and Chapter 4: Housing)

Welsh Government should...

Ensure the new “National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management” provides a comprehensive and holistic plan for responding to flooding and coastal erosion, with adequate funding that is focussed on preventative measures including nature based solutions.

Require all publicly funded buildings to be carbon neutral: urgently amend the building regulations (Part L and Part F) and enforce stricter building and infrastructure standards to ensure that we are not building “old” new schools, hospitals and other infrastructure that will contribute to climate change and not be fit for future generations.

Assess the carbon impact of their spend, especially capital spend, and should also publish details on the overall carbon impact of their budget and major investment/ infrastructure decisions.

Resource and prioritise carbon and eco-literacy training for all politicians, elected members and senior officers of public bodies in Wales to ensure we have the necessary skills and understanding to make the right decisions for the climate.

Future Generations Report 2020

You can find the full report with all the recommendations and findings on our website or if you are viewing this document electronically you can be directed to the report by [clicking](#) on the image below.



For all queries please email contactus@futuregenerations.wales

