



Comisiynydd
Cenedlaethau'r
Dyfodol
Cymru

**Future
Generations**
Commissioner
for Wales

The Future Generations Report 2020: Executive Summaries



Let's create the future together

Chapter 6 - At a glance, year-by-year summary of my activities between May 2017 – May 2020

Over the past three years, I have engaged with, involved and drawn on the views of more than [5,000 people](#). The evidence I have gathered from these activities - listening to people, experts and working with civil servants has provided considerable insight and helped me reach the findings and recommendations in this report.

Year one

The [first year](#) of my appointment, February 2016 – March 2017, falls outside the reporting period. My Annual Report for 2016-17, can be accessed [here](#).

Year two

In my [second year](#) - April 2017 - March 2018 - I involved over 1,300 stakeholders in developing the programme of work for my term of office, identifying the areas I could best influence and make the biggest contribution to each of the well-being goals. I published [my analysis](#) of the first well-being assessments undertaken by the 19 new Public Services Boards. I highlighted the challenges and opportunities in front of them to change the way we deliver public services in Wales.

Having expressed concerns about the decision-making on the M4, I submitted [initial written evidence](#) and then [further evidence](#) to the M4 public inquiry which questioned how the Act was being considered in an existing decision and whether the decision to borrow over

£1 billion is the right one for future generations. This intervention paved the way to advising Welsh Government on embedding the Act into the Welsh Transport Appraisal guidance (WelTAG) and publishing my Future Generations Framework on infrastructure projects.

More information can be found in my [Annual Report for 2017/18](#).

Year three

My [third year](#) - April 2018 – March 2019 - was focused on setting-up strategic partnerships to help develop resources and guidance on the Act, providing advice and support in my areas of focus and continuing to listen and involve all those who can deliver the vision and requirements of the legislation. I published two further Future Generations Frameworks on [service design](#) and [scrutiny](#). I challenged the Government on how they are demonstrating that the Act is being applied to spending decisions; helped determine a definition of prevention by which their spending can be judged; and responding to concerns raised by the public, helped to recast Planning Policy Wales. In May 2019, I published my analysis of public bodies' first well-being objectives and designed and undertook a methodology for my first round of monitoring and assessing which was completed at the end of 2019. Further information is in my [Annual Report for 2018-19](#).



Year four

My [fourth year](#), April 2019 – March -2020 - was focused on publishing resources through my Art of the Possible '[Journeys](#)' and continuing to advise public bodies so that they can understand the Act and its implications. This included delivering two 'Live Labs' (my most detailed level of support) on Adverse Childhood Experiences (with Cwm Taf Public Services Board) and housing (with Welsh Government). In terms of the areas where I seek to proactively drive change, I focused on health system change, procurement and the government's budget - including publishing a [10-point plan to fund Wales' climate emergency](#). On skills for the future, I worked with Professor Calvin Jones at Cardiff University on a white paper '[Education fit for the Future in Wales](#)' to stimulate a discussion on how we prepare young people with the right skills, and also launched my own [Future Generations Leadership Academy](#). My Annual Report for 2019-20 will be published in August 2020.



Most significant achievements

- Changed the Government's approach on the [M4 Relief Road](#)
- Embedded the Act in the procurement of the rail franchise for Wales and the Borders
- Proposed a new approach to [examination and assessment in education in Wales](#)
- Helped recast national planning policy in line with the Act
- Secured the Act as a key plank of the Welsh Government's International Strategy
- Agreed a definition and adoption of a definition of preventative spent
- Secured an increase in Welsh Government funding towards tackling the climate and nature emergency, in line with my advice in my 10 Point Plan
- Reformed criteria for better housing development through the Innovative Housing Programme
- Monitored and assessed progress towards meeting around 300 well-being objectives
- Produced a full suite of guidance and resources for anyone who can help achieve the well-being goals
- Gave advice and assistance to over 500 people or organisations
- Shortlisted in the national Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountability awards
- Established the Future Generations Leadership Academy



Building profile in Wales and the world

- Named as one of the UK's [Top 100 Changemakers](#) - Big Issue
- Featured in the [Makers and Mavericks List 2019](#)
- Helped to develop Private Members bills in the Commons and Lords for a Well-being of Future Generations Act for the UK
- Influenced policy development on well-being in Canada, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and New Zealand
- Represented Wales at the [United Nations High-Level Political Forum](#) and the [World Government Summit](#)
- Featured in [Positive News](#), [The Guardian](#), Channel 4, BBC Future at Hay Festival, [BBC Ideas Platform](#), the National Newspaper of South Korea and the Dutch Financial Times
- Contributor to Reasons to be [Cheerful Podcast](#) and BBC Radio 4's [Four Thought Podcast](#)
- Featured in books by Margaret Heffernan, Roman Krznaric and Jane Davidson.



My contribution to the vision set out in the Act

Chapter 1 and the first part of each of the other chapters of the Future Generations Report describe, through different lenses, the holistic and integrated vision for the Wales we want to see in 2050, which the Act sets out. I have pro-actively sought to contribute to this by setting out areas of focus maximising my own impact and by producing inspirational guidance for each of the goals.

My areas of focus

With a small team relative to the breadth and ambition of the Act, I needed to be smart in how I approached this. In 2017, following involvement of people groups and experts, I identified areas of focus which could have the biggest impact towards the vision and well-being goals – the equivalent of setting my own well-being objectives.

I consciously did not single out environment, culture, community or economy as each are an integral consideration to decisions in all areas. In my analysis of progress in earlier sections of this report, a common finding has been that public bodies are not taking a sufficiently integrated approach: often action on one issue does not do enough to drive change simultaneously in other areas. It can and it must. I have sought to show by example that action on particular policy issues can have multiple benefits on all four dimensions of well-being, without singling out the environment or any other aspect of well-being.

My areas of focus can be divided in two groups:

Our places and infrastructure

- Transport
- Land use planning
- Housing

Our people

- Prevention of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
- Skills for the future
- Health and wellness system

In taking each of these forward I have sought to practically and proactively contribute to the vision and goals in a number of ways. For example, by:

- Expanding and explaining what the goals and the vision means for Wales
- Providing advice and assistance to public bodies
- Monitoring their progress to secure policy and procedural change
- Publishing resources, research and analysis that leads to influence national or local policy
- Responding to evidence or concerns raised by the public and their representatives
- Collaborating with others and taking forward joint work
- Championing innovative ideas
- Sharing case-studies from within Wales and wider to help good practice travel
- Walking the talk in how I manage my own office.

Please see the full Future Generations Report for more detail of work to date.

