

Community Strategy Delivery Plan 2014-18

Progress Report - December 2016

Introduction

The following report has been produced to update the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board on progress towards delivering the actions within the Community Strategy Delivery Plan 2014-18. In response to the findings of the 2013 Unified Needs Assessment it was agreed that the focus for the next phase of delivering the Community Strategy would be on tackling poverty. The Delivery Plan 2014-18 has been aligned to Welsh Government's Tackling Poverty Action Plan and encompasses three workstreams – Preventing Poverty, Helping People into Work and Mitigating the Impact of Poverty.

For each workstream, a Senior Reporting Officer and lead group has been identified to oversee delivery of the actions under the workstream. Each of the lead groups have contributed to the drafting of this document which is a twice yearly report to be presented to the PSB updating on progress throughout the course of the Delivery Plan. The reports form part of a package of performance information with progress towards delivering the overall Community Strategy continuing to be monitored through the Annual Report and an annual Core Indicators Report. This will also be supplemented by the use of [InfoBase Vale](#) as an online tool designed to keep the needs assessment 'live'. The Local Government Data Unit has also produced an [in-depth analysis of poverty across the Vale of Glamorgan](#), providing further context within which the PSB is working.

The Delivery Plan is designed to be a dynamic document which can be adapted in response to trends observed through regular progress reports. Following each progress report an updated version of the Delivery Plan is published on the [PSB website pages](#). The PSB is asked to respond to any amendments requested under each workstream. The December 2016 update reports provide an update on the next steps identified within the [previous progress report](#).

The Delivery Plan will continue to be implemented and monitored until the PSB agrees a Well-being Plan in 2018 however amendments may be made in response to the findings of the Well-being Assessment which will be published in 2017. In delivering the actions within the plan due regard is paid to the five ways of working and to ensuring the PSB is contributing to the national well-being goals.

Executive Summary

Preventing Poverty

- Taff Housing Association has been recruited through Supporting People funding to ensure appropriate housing related support is being given to people who are supported by Families First, Communities First and Flying Start.
- In addition to the support work, Taff Housing will work across the programmes to map service provision and identify if there is any duplication in terms of support provision across the programmes.
- Training around parenting attachment is currently being planned to initially help staff to identify issues but with the potential for further training for relevant staff to equip them to help resolve problems. This is being funded through Families First and will be offered across all four programmes.
- A European Social Fund (ESF) lead worker event was hosted on the 12th October, with 55 partners attending. All current ESF projects in the Vale of Glamorgan presented outcomes of their programmes. The event allowed workers from each project to network and compare programme criteria.
- A workshop is planned for the 10th February 2017 entitled 'People, Poverty, Action - Working Together to Reduce Inequalities'. The workshop will bring together board members for Communities First, Supporting People, Flying Start and Families First to learn about the different programmes and identify opportunities for further alignment of activities.

Helping People into Work



- Communities for Work (C4W) staff have been appointed and are moving forward with the programme. The team has been integrated into the Communities First Prosperity Team for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.
- The delivery of services at the Open Learning Centre at Barry Library commenced in November 2016. The new facility includes three classrooms, a computer suite, office space and a crèche; this has transformed the library into a learning hub.
- First Job opportunities project is making linkages between the Council Housing Improvement programme and creating opportunities for local people, supported by Communities First. Communities First has also engaged with Newydd Housing Association along similar lines.
- The Inspire to Work bid is a joint project with Llamau Housing, working with unemployed young people aged 16-25. The project will seek to mentor young people and help them access education and employment opportunities. The Business Plan has been submitted to WEFO for approval with an expected start date of the project in early 2017.
- Guest speakers from FirstSource, Deloitte, Welsh Contact Centre Forum, Conduit, Admiral and Welsh Government's St Athan & Cardiff Airport Enterprise Zone have been invited to talk at IOB meetings. This engagement has led to knowledge sharing, employer engagement, and has offered benefits to the employers who have all experienced recruitment issues historically.
- CAVC has also shared details of the Labour Market Intelligence they have developed - both for the Vale of Glamorgan in general, but also for the 9 key Welsh Government priority sectors.
- In all main indicators, the performance of eFSM pupils has improved over time and shows an upward trend. Where the gap has not narrowed, it is as a result of nFSM pupils improving in line with or at a faster rate than eFSM pupils.
- A range of activities are progressing with regards to NEETs and figures continue to improve.

Mitigating the Impact of Poverty

- To ensure a consistent approach to the changes implemented to the Local Housing Allowance is taken across the Vale of Glamorgan, the Council's Operational Manager for Public Housing Services is exploring options to establish a smaller working group.
- A Sensemaker project, involving the collection of qualitative data on the food environment in the Vale of Glamorgan has been undertaken, with a particular focus on the Barry area. Based on the findings, a Food Vale Steering Group has been established, the first meeting of the group was held on 10th November 2016. This group will develop an Action Plan, work to refresh food asset mapping and work towards the submission of a Sustainable Food Cities application.
- A detailed presentation and demonstration of the Citizens Advice live web-chat service was brought to the Financial Inclusion group in July. The web-chat service was piloted in its first phase by a number of branches including Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan, with branch advisors working on web-chats, although clients from across the UK could access the service.
- A School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP) was piloted in the Vale of Glamorgan over the school summer holidays. The project was hosted in Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren, targeting children aged between 11-12, in the transition year between school years 6 and 7. A total of 93 children benefitted from the programme which provided participants with a healthy meal, alongside a range of physical activities, at a time when some parents struggle to provide an extra meal in the holidays.
- Following initial momentum in the delivery of the Financial Inclusion Strategy, due to changes in group membership, including its chairperson, there has been a loss of focus in the delivery of the strategy. It has been agreed that when a new permanent chair is in place, new leads and timescales will be assigned to actions in the strategy to regain momentum.

Progress Update

Preventing Poverty

Senior Reporting Officer: Phil Evans (Director of Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Monitored by: Children and Young Peoples Programme Board and Poverty Alignment Group.

Align Families First, Communities First and Flying Start programmes to help children, families and communities to escape poverty.				
	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
1	Map services provided by the four programmes in terms of service type, customer group, geographical area and partners	To map parenting services and projects. This will be finalised in the summer to inform any changes to services for the Autumn.	<p>Initial mapping of Families First and Flying Start parenting services has been completed. Further work is on hold until January 2017 whilst details of funding changes to the relevant programmes is awaited.</p> <p>Taff Housing Association has been recruited through Supporting People funding to ensure appropriate housing related support is being given to people who are supported by the other three programmes</p>	<p>Awaiting guidance on programmes for 2017/18 to help determine any future mapping exercises.</p> <p>As part of the Taff Housing work which is a 12 month project work will be undertaken to map service provision and identify if there is any duplication in terms of support provision across the programmes.</p> <p>A workshop has been arranged for December to bring staff from all 4 programmes together as part of this project.</p>

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2	Collate information regarding current monitoring and reporting frameworks including timeframes	<p>A workshop across the four Vale programmes is planned which will enable relevant officers to develop a better understanding of the aims and scope of each programme and where similarities and opportunities for closer working exist.</p> <p>This will also include input from Public Health regarding how all four programmes can contribute to their priorities.</p> <p>Work is being undertaken across all four programmes with regards to current governance structures, funding and commissioning of services to identify areas for greater alignment and delivery of shared priorities</p>	<p>On the 22nd September a 'Vale Wellbeing Roadshow & Networking' event was held for front-line staff at Barry Memorial Hall. This involved 56 organisations hosting stalls and over 300 + people attending. The event also saw the launch of the Dewis Cymru website https://www.dewis.wales/</p> <p>Feedback from this event was very good (see Task 4 below for further detail).</p> <p>The PAG continues to meet to ensure 'closer working' and alignment will continue amongst the participating programmes.</p>	<p>Once guidance for 2017/18 has been issued and more information is available regarding Communities First the group will explore further opportunities for joint working/sharing of information.</p> <p>The group previously participated in the trial of a common outcomes framework and are willing to consider participating in any future WG pilots.</p>
3	Explore opportunities for joint training across the four programmes	<p>Further joint activities are planned: Reducing child accidents Lead workers Forum for ESF Networking Event for professionals</p> <p>Other training such as Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Brief Intervention for Smoking Cessation and Alcohol Awareness may be arranged via the Local Public Health Team</p> <p>An exercise will also be undertaken</p>	<p>Training for both the Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Brief Intervention (BI) for Smoking Cessation programmes have been widely advertised and additional programmes will be arranged. 17 MECC training sessions were held across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, with 13 of the organisations involved working across Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan.</p> <p>In addition, MECC training has been rolled out to individual teams, with</p>	<p>The Flying Start programme continues to provide access to in-house training via the Vale of Glamorgan Council STMS training system on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Development • Reducing Accidents of the Under 5s • Positive Parenting • Promoting Speech, Language and Communication in Young children

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		across all four programmes to identify future training needs.	<p>Barry Communities First hosting MECC training through the Community Wellbeing Coaches.</p> <p>An additional 18 professionals have received training on Universal Credit and 5 on child DLA through Families First. This training will help support staff working with families to ensure accurate advice and signposting is carried out.</p> <p>A European Social Fund (ESF) lead worker event was hosted on the 12th October, with 55 partners attending. All current ESF projects in the Vale of Glamorgan presented outcomes for their programmes. The event allowed workers from each project to network and compare programme criteria. This event received excellent feedback from participants.</p>	<p>All training funded through Families First will continue to be offered to appropriate staff, organisations and customers across all four programmes.</p> <p>Training around parenting attachment is currently being planned to initially help staff identify issues but with the potential for further training for relevant staff to equip them to help resolve problems.</p>
4	Explore opportunities for a more joined up approach to engagement and information provision across the	<p>Discussions are taking place about pooling skills across the programmes to develop work in this area.</p> <p>The need for frontline staff to be more consistent in terms of questions asked, how and when to make referrals and knowledge about a range of services has been identified.</p>	<p>Work has continued across the four programmes to develop a shared approach to engagement. This has included the 'Vale Wellbeing Roadshow & Networking' event which was attended by more than 300 people and included 55 information stands.</p> <p>127 people completed an evaluation</p>	<p>A workshop is planned for the 10th February 2017 titled 'People, Poverty, Action - Working Together to Reduce Inequalities'. The workshop will bring together board members for Communities First, Supporting People, Flying Start and Families First to learn about the different programmes to gain a better understanding of the four</p>

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	four programmes		<p>form and in response to the question - <i>What have you found most useful about the event?</i></p> <p>Attendees found that the most useful part of the event was the chance to network with other partners. It gave them the time to make those valuable links to ensure strong partnership working that they would not normally be able to establish on a day-to-day basis. People also found that the large variety of stall holders and information available was beneficial.</p>	<p>interrelated poverty programmes.</p> <p>There will also be an opportunity to discuss how/if greater alignment can be achieved across all or some of the programmes. Ideas and information from the discussions will be then fed back to the Public Services Board.</p>
5	Support the embedding of team around the family approaches.	<p>Awaiting new guidance from Welsh Government regarding how TAF is rolled out further.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group within Flying Start established to move this forward in 2016-17</p>	<p>Families First Guidance regarding the roll out of the team around the family approach is not likely to be issued before March 2017.</p> <p>The FACT team are currently providing Team Around the Family training to Supported People commissioned projects.</p>	The Flying Start programme is looking to progress work in this area next year.
6	Work with Head Teachers to explore options to maximise	Poverty Alignment Group to consider how best to link in to any work on this issue	Please see update for action 15 in the Helping People into work section.	The Head of Achievement for All (Learning and Skills) has arranged a meeting with relevant parties to progress this issue in the New Year.

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	how the Pupil Deprivation Grant could be utilised to fit with other intervention programmes			
7	Ensure that all four programmes link closely with public health priorities for the Vale and help to address health inequalities.	Trina to circulate relevant data to the group and participate in the proposed workshop. This will help ensure a clear understanding of public health priorities (local and national) and the current and potential contributions of the four programmes and promote joint working with relevant health agencies to ensure staff disseminating relevant information	<p>Following a presentation from the Cardiff and Vale Public Health Team on tackling childhood obesity to the Council's Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee the PAG were tasked with looking at how the four programmes support this agenda. Discussions are ongoing between officers with regard to responsibilities, remits, priorities and funding. Future planning of activities will have to be in line with the revised priorities and funding requirements of the programmes or be part of a wider discussion regarding funding and targeting of services.</p> <p>Two Comprehensive Schools in Barry participated in the School Health Enrichment Programme (SHEP) during the summer of 2016. As part of the programme participants learned about healthy eating and physical activity. Over the two weeks</p>	<p>Further discussions between the programme leads and the Dietetics team with Cardiff and Vale Public Health are planned for January.</p> <p>A presentation on SHEP was made to the PSB in September and partners were keen to be involved in future programmes. Information will be shared as soon as possible about future activities to increase</p>

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			<p>of the programme, on average 16 children attended on a daily basis at Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive school. Parents were also encouraged to attend on one day per week to build relationships with the schools in preparation for their children to 'transition' and siblings were also included in this process.</p> <p>Both of these schools are participating in a wider Wales evaluation of the programme being conducted by Cardiff University.</p> <p>A number of volunteers were also recruited onto the project from the Bryn Hafren 6th form and its envisaged these volunteers will continue to work with the Communities First team as well as Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS).</p>	<p>the number of participants and range of activities.</p> <p>18 Local Authority areas have 'expressed an interest' in participating in the programme for the summer of 2017 which will be hosted by the WLGA and will require match funding.</p>

Further Actions	
<p>Are there any changes needed to the delivery plan?</p> <p>No changes are required at this time however following the workshop in February there may be a need to revise activities within the delivery plan.</p>	<p>Any Additional Actions Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Any Amendments Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
<p>PSB Response</p> <p>Does the PSB have any revisions or additions (For use at the PSB)</p>	<p>The PSB noted the good progress being made and highlighted the need to consider any future implications from the Welsh Government Resilient Communities Consultation that was discussed at the meeting under a separate agenda item.</p>

Helping People into Work

Senior Reporting Officer: Kay Martin (Vice Principal, Cardiff and Vale College) and Marcus Goldsworthy (Head of Regeneration and Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Monitored by: Improving Opportunities Board

Improve opportunities for employment and skills development to improve access to jobs that can be a route out of poverty and to a better quality of life.				
	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
1	Promote digital access and literacy with particular reference to deprived areas and hard to reach groups	<p>A schedule to train key local authority staff as digital literacy practitioners has been agreed.</p> <p>Cascade digital learning training to Tutor teams and monitor practice embedded in lesson plans and course outlines.</p> <p>Work of 'Get the Vale Online Partnership' to continue.</p> <p>The Vale's Digital Inclusion Working Group to continue.</p> <p>Will continue until at least March 2017.</p>	All Tutors across the CAVCLP have been offered Digital inclusion awareness and embedding training. 2 training sessions have already run with over twenty tutors in attendance.	<p>Two further training sessions will be run within this academic year.</p> <p>Upgrade the software to Windows 2016 in the digital suite in Central Library used by the Digital Inclusion Team</p>
2	Put in place an exit strategy for when funding for	The funding for the Communities 2.0 project ended in March 2015 but partners agreed to continue to update and monitor the site, so it's	The Get the Vale Online Steering Group is also still in existence and meets on a quarterly basis. The meetings are chaired and facilitated	Steering groups and current partnership work will continue. A list of current free Digital Drop-Ins being provided across the Vale is

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	Communities 2.0 comes to an end	still in existence and reasonably accurate. See here for more info; http://getthevaleonline.org.uk/	by Matthew Lloyd, Senior Co-ordinator, Digital Communities Wales, Wales Co-op Centre. The group includes all relevant partners e.g. Vale Council, GVS, Newydd Housing.	available via the link; http://getthevaleonline.org.uk/courses-and-drop-ins/#drop-in
3	Implement the 'Prosperous Communities' element of the Communities First plan. Providing additional support to unemployed people in Communities First areas including confidence building, CV and interview skills training and job fairs	<p>Implement the 2016/17 programme whilst planning has already started for post March 2017.</p> <p>The C4W programme is due to go 'live' in Barry in the summer of 2016.</p>	<p>The news was received on 11th October that Carl Sargent – Minister in Charge, is minded to wind down the Communities First programme.</p> <p>C4W staff now appointed to roles and moving forward with the programme. The team has been integrated into the Communities First Prosperity Team for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.</p> <p>The 2016 ACL curriculum has been planned in collaboration with Communities First and C4W –to ensure that learners needs are met</p>	<p>Consultation on the current Communities First provision is underway and advice received that funding for the project is likely to continue until December 2017 but will be reduced in scale, pending the results of the consultation.</p> <p>The Council is engaging with Welsh Government over a possible replacement programme for Communities First.</p> <p>Welsh Government will attend the December PSB to discuss the Resilient Programmes engagement.</p> <p>C4W is not directly affected by the announcement, but as the 2 programmes are delivered by an</p>

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				integrated team, careful thought needs to be given to future delivery options.
4	Support long term unemployed people into employment through mentoring, training and job search assistance.	If the Inspire to Work bid is successful this will be a joint project with Llamau Housing working with unemployed young people 16-25. The project will seek to mentor young people and help them access education and employment opportunities.	<p>A Business Plan has been submitted to WEFO for approval and the expected start date of the project is January 2017.</p> <p>Careers Wales continues to provide information, advice and guidance to young people and adults in the labour market and supports them to develop their employability skills through work club sessions or signposting. From November 2016 they have been referring all adults to a range of online tools.</p>	Following approval, steps will be taken to recruit a staff member, build networks and partnerships, and recruit young people.
5	Develop links with existing and future regeneration projects and investment including Communities First and CRC to provide access to good quality, sustainable training and	Potential agenda item at next IOB meeting.	<p>Communities First has worked closely with Hangfire smokehouse and Academy Espresso bar at the Pumphouse redevelopment</p> <p>First Job opportunities project is making linkages between the Council Housing Improvement programme and creating opportunities for local people, supported by Communities First. Communities First has also engaged with Newydd Housing Association along similar lines.</p>	<p>The Council's Regeneration team is improving communication to ensure all opportunities are taken to engage with employers. The future of Communities First will be critical going forward.</p> <p>The Council's Economic Development team is being grown to improve liaison with employers and support capacity for community regeneration. Three posts are currently being recruited.</p>

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
	employment opportunities		Employer engagement project with Cardiff Clusters in place.	
6	Promote access to new investment in the Enterprise Zone	David George to attend next IOB meeting to discuss future investment opportunities.	David George from Welsh Government attended the July meeting of the IOB and updated on progress to date. Aston Martin now have a permanent office in St Athan	The board will continue to maintain links with Aston Martin and ask them to a future IOB meeting to explain strategy for seeking new employees. Communities First/Work programme to engage regarding employment opportunities
7	Identify and monitor major capital funds including ESF to increase employment opportunities	James Scorey from CAVC to deliver an ESF project(s) update at next IOB.	James Scorey (CAVC) delivered an update on various funded projects, including the ESF funded Upskilling@Work and Inspire2Achieve programmes. Karen Higgins from LSKip (the regional learning partnership) also offered an overview of what the RLP is set up to achieve.	James Scorey to offer regular updates regarding capital funds and European projects within the region. City Deal funding also to be considered for strategic purposes.
8	Engage with adult learners of all ages to improve skills and remove barriers to learning and employment	Maintain current success rates and implement a summer programme. Move Open Learning Centre into Barry Library	Delivery of services at the Open Learning Centre at Barry Library commenced on the in November 2016. The new facility is the result of a £100,000 investment by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and includes three classrooms, a computer suite, office space and crèche, which have transformed	Review of provision planned for January 2017.

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			the library into a learning hub. The adult learning courses previously on offer at the Open Learning Centre at Provincial House have transferred to the Vale Learning Centre. Library users can access a wide range of adult education courses – covering everything from drop-in computer workshops, employability skills, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to English and maths courses for those who want to improve their skills for life and work - all at the same location.	
9	Promote apprenticeships across partners and other major employers.	<p>Presentation to be made to the Engagement and Progression Board.</p> <p>The Council's HR service is giving consideration to piloting MiFuture</p> <p>Apprenticeship Presentation to VOG Education Cabinet Member & Regeneration Cabinet Member.</p>	<p>Deloitte attended the July meeting of the IOB and gave a very positive presentation on their experience with Apprenticeships and the relationship and support from CAVC.</p> <p>The Council's Cabinet have considered a report on Youth employment and referred the matter to the PSB.</p> <p>CAVC delivered an update on its Apprenticeship Training Agency</p>	<p>The Council's Head of Human Resources will attend the January meeting of the PSB to discuss youth employment.</p> <p>CAVC to present a report on the Apprenticeship Levy to the PSB in January.</p>

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			(ATA) and Junior Apprenticeships model.	
10	Establish links between employers and training & learning providers and carry out surveys to identify skills needs, and what skills deficiencies there are.	CAVC to continue inviting employers to meetings. However, it will be important that actions and outputs are agreed following their attendance.	<p>Guest speakers from FirstSource, Deloitte, Welsh Contact Centre Forum, Conduit, Admiral, Deloitte and Welsh Government's St Athan & Cardiff Airport Enterprise Zone have been invited by CAVC to talk at IOB meetings. This engagement has led to knowledge sharing, employer engagement, and has offered benefits to the employers who have all experienced recruitment issues historically.</p> <p>CAVC has also shared details of the Labour Market Intelligence they have developed - both for the Vale of Glamorgan in general, but also for the 9 key Welsh Government priority sectors.</p>	<p>CAVC to continue inviting employers, with the IOB to deliver outputs based on discussions.</p> <p>Other partners to invite employers to discuss their current skills needs and future plans.</p> <p>Consideration given to City Deal and how this could support employers in the Vale.</p> <p>The Board should support any inward investors into the Vale. The forum should be used as a one stop shop to support organisations with their recruitment/ skills needs.</p>
11	Develop an employer engagement strategy to ensure a number of	<p>Create post and implement strategy.</p> <p>This project is due to go live in the summer of 2016; the post will be managed by the Cardiff STAR</p>	<p>A post has been created, however, it is likely this will be affected by the wind down of Communities First.</p> <p>In reality, given the broad depth of</p>	Enhanced joined up thinking is required when it comes to employer engagement. The facilitation of a meeting with Tidal Lagoon is an excellent example of this working in practice.

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	agencies aren't targeting the same employers.	Cluster and Cardiff Community Housing Association.	services and activities each stakeholder has, this will be difficult in practice.	Inward investment support should be coordinated via the group
12	Work with partners and the local community to implement projects in Barry funded through the Welsh Government Tackling Poverty Fund.	Complete delivery and explore potential bid for post March 2017.	<p>All projects set to be delivered on time.</p> <p>Welsh Government's Regeneration programmes are currently under review and there is no firm guidance yet from Welsh Government on what, if anything, will replace Vibrant and Viable Places as part of the Tackling Poverty agenda. The delay and uncertainty means it is difficult to take matters forward or plan a new implementation strategy.</p> <p>Capital funding for core Regeneration has been reduced by 80% in draft Welsh Government budget for 2017/18.</p>	<p>Continue to work with and challenge Welsh Government over replacement scheme and resources for regeneration.</p> <p>Use of the pipeline of 'Tackling Poverty' funding from Welsh Government to develop additional schemes going forward while uncertainty remains.</p>
13	Work with local stakeholders on joint action for town centres, including place	Review progress against the Town Centres Framework.	Report taken to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Cabinet in October updating on progress in delivering the framework, including the works commissioned to High St/Broad St, Town centre retailers	The reviewed framework will be brought to the IOB with a progress report from Chris Edwards, the Council's Town Centres Development Officer.

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	boards and exploration of business improvement districts.		forum etc.	
14	Implement the Youth Engagement & Progression Framework (YEPF) to significantly sustain a reduction in the number of NEETs.	<p>YEPF 2016/17 plan has been submitted to Welsh Government highlighting a range of activities to be carried out to meet funding criteria.</p> <p>Strategic and operational developments on engagement of young people at risk of becoming NEET.</p> <p>Expand youth offer and ensure pre 16 curriculum needs are met</p> <p>Develop robust panels in schools, to ensure high risk young people are receiving ESF Inspire to Achieve intervention.</p> <p>Strengthen lead worker network through partnership working</p> <p>Ensure OOST and Educated At Home young people have access to</p>	<p>Upskilling@Work is an ESF backed programme and part of a pan-Wales operation; the target groups are those in work who have no or low level qualifications (Specific Objective 1) and those who have medium/higher level qualifications (Specific Objective 2). The value of the project to Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan is approximately £5million and should have a significant economic impact.</p> <p>Inspire2Achieve is an ESF backed project, this is a collaboration across the region and is led by Newport City Council. The aim is to reduce those most at risk of becoming NEET. The eligible target group are those aged 11-24, with local authorities focusing activities with 11-16 year olds and colleges focusing on the 16-24 year olds (mainly 16 - 19). CAVC started the</p>	<p>The current understanding is that projects that have already received European funding will continue to receive funding for the agreed duration of the project – it is essential that these projects are maximised whilst funding is still available. I2A started in April 2016. I2W is due to start in January 2017.</p> <p>Continue to monitor the YEPF work plan 2016/17 and develop provision to meet the needs of young people at risk of becoming NEET, who may not otherwise fit the I2A programme.</p> <p>Continue to support the 14-19 Network and ensure they are informed of consortium’s plans and developments.</p> <p>Monitor the LWN and maintain communication with all partners to</p>

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		<p>one to one support</p> <p>ESF projects due to go live in the summer of 2016.</p>	<p>project in April and it went live in September. The aim is to engage over 300 participants in 3 years.</p> <p>I2A panels have been in operation since February 2016 ensuring that schools are aware of the eligibility to the programme and that young people receive the support they need through Careers Wales and or Youth work support. The Panel meets with schools once a term, the structure and process has been a continuous work in progress to meet the requirements of the ESF programme and the expectations of WEFO.</p> <p>In September 2016 40 young people received youth work support and there were approximately 100 referrals to the Careers Wales element of the project.</p> <p>CAVC provided information regarding the Skills Priorities Programme which is funded by Welsh Government. This is a £4.5million pan Wales programme for further education. This project</p>	<p>engage challenging young people.</p> <p>To ensure that the I2A panels in schools are clear and concise in their approach to accepting referrals to the programme and that schools are completing the Early Identification Exercise as accurately as possible to ensure students meet the eligibility criteria.</p>

Improve opportunities for employment and skills development to improve access to jobs that can be a route out of poverty and to a better quality of life.

	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
			<p>is in response to the need for a higher level skills provision.</p> <p>The Implementation of the YEPF Work Plan is monitored quarterly by the Strategic Board. Activities to engage at risk NEET young people are being delivered by a wide range of partners in the Vale and through Bristol based Charity Empire Fighting Chance.</p> <p>The Council ensure that the 14-19 Network are fully informed on provision developments such as the junior apprenticeship programme, MPCT and CAVC & ACT.</p> <p>The Lead Worker Network has a robust membership representation, and continues to expand into other areas than training and education. Information and presentations are delivered to ensure best practice.</p> <p>Vulnerable young people who are NEET or at high risk are given the opportunity for one to one support alongside delivery of Agored Cymru Units in a wide range of subject</p>	

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
			areas.	
15	Work with schools to address variations in educational attainment across different areas of the Vale and to develop a better understanding of how poor performance in some geographical areas of the Vale can be addressed. Improve the performance of pupils in receipt of Free School Meals in all Key Stages. geographical areas of the Vale can be addressed.	<p>Ensure that the PDG has been used as planned and ensure that the impact has been fully evaluated by schools within their self -evaluation reports. Compare targets set to outcomes achieved.</p> <p>Identify those schools that have narrowed the performance grant and those that have not. Ensure that this information feeds into the categorisation process.</p>	<p>Schools are expected to integrate PDG spending plans into their school improvement planning. This needs to include a clear emphasis on narrowing the gap between eFSM and nFSM pupils which assumes that both groups of learners will improve. As part of the categorisation process, challenge advisers have compared outcomes from 2016 against agreed targets and scrutinised schools' self-evaluation reports and processes and school improvement plans. Raising the achievement of eFSM pupils is considered when determining the school's ability to bring about improvement.</p> <p>In all main indicators, the performance of eFSM pupils has improved over time and shows an upward trend. Where the gap has not narrowed, it is as a result of nFSM pupils improving in line with or at a faster rate than eFSM pupils.</p> <p>Of particular note are the</p>	<p>Challenge advisers monitor schools' progress against their school improvement plans which includes the impact of PDG spending.</p> <p>The challenge advisers in all schools will continue to monitor the progress of eFSM pupils and compare it with nFSM pupils.</p> <p>There is a focus on improving the performance of eFSM pupils at above the expected level (FP-O6; KS2-L5; KS3-L6+; KS4-5A*-A)</p> <p>Closing the gap between eFSM and nFSM pupils remains a priority across the Vale.</p>

Improve opportunities for employment and skills development to improve access to jobs that can be a route out of poverty and to a better quality of life.

	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
	<p>Improve the performance of pupils in receipt of Free School Meals in all Key Stages.</p>		<p>improvements in KS3 where the performance of eFSM pupils is improving rapidly.</p> <p>When considering the L2+ for pupils eligible for free school meals, only 1 school in the Vale is below the Welsh Government's 3 year weighted average floor target of 32%. While reassured that this is significantly lower than the other local authorities in the region, the school is under close scrutiny and challenging targets have been agreed to target improvement in this measure.</p> <p>Across the Vale, the performance of eFSM pupils at L2+ improved by 9.6pp resulting in a difference of 28% between eFSM and nFSM. The CSC difference is 33%. Despite improvements, closing the gap in this key indicator remains a priority</p>	

Further Actions	
<p>Are there any changes needed to the delivery plan?</p>	<p>Any Additional Actions Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Any Amendments Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<p>PSB Response</p> <p>Does the PSB have any revisions or additions (For use at the PSB)</p>	<p>The PSB noted the good progress being made and highlighted that youth employment and the apprenticeship levy will be included on the agenda at the next PSB meeting (January 2017)</p>

Mitigating the Impact of Poverty

Senior Reporting Officer: Awaiting appointment of a new Head of Housing Services

Monitored by: Financial Inclusion Group.

Improve the advice and support available for Vale residents experiencing financial and housing difficulties enabling them to maintain a suitable standard of living and to find a route out of poverty.				
	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
1	Raise awareness about the impact of welfare reform with staff and residents including delivery of the Families First funded project 'Raising Awareness of Welfare Rights'	<p>Universal Credit support has been put in place as per the update on action 2 as below.</p> <p>The Financial Inclusion Group are discussing the forthcoming changes to Local Housing Allowance and a smaller working group will be established to discuss how these changes are dealt with in the Vale, particularly in relation to under 35s in order to avoid having to use Bed and Breakfast accommodation again</p>	<p>An in-depth briefing note on the Local Housing Allowance was discussed by the Financial Inclusion Group in October. To ensure a consistent approach across the Vale, the Council's Operational Manager for Public Housing Services, Mike Ingram is establishing a smaller working group.</p> <p>33 Families have been have been directly referred and accessed the 'Raising Awareness of Welfare Rights' project via the FACT project. 12 accessed the project for money advice and 28 for benefit advice. Through this project approximately £20,000 of debt was written off and over £78,000 of benefits was gained for these families.</p> <p>Through the Families First</p>	<p>The forum to discuss the changes implemented through the LHA will be established and will report progress to the Financial Inclusion Group.</p> <p>Support those affected by the reduced Benefit Cap. Partners are beginning to collect information on the distance claimants affected by the cap are away from the labour market, considering how likely they are to gain employment as a solution to the issue.</p>

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
			<p>programme an additional 18 professionals received training on Universal Credit and 5 on Child Disability living allowance, this training will help support staff working with families to ensure accurate advice and signposting is carried out.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to changes in the criteria to the Families First programme the 'Raising Awareness of Welfare' project will cease in March 2017. The Welsh Government are exploring how this may be supported through additional avenues.</p> <p>Partners have discussed upcoming changes to the Benefit Cap and contact is being made with those who will be affected by the cap.</p>	
2	Monitor an agreed Partnership Delivery Agreement and continue to share and	Continued dialogue between partners will ensure that any claimants needing Personal Budgeting Support are referred. The Council's benefits and housing teams will meet with Registered Social Landlords to put official referral mechanisms for	Regular dialogue with partners has continued and the PBS process is always being improved and monitored, to ensure we provide the best possible service. The referrals are increasing and the Council, in consultation with Department for	Continuing to provide and refine the service to meet the specified needs of claimants. Work with partners to increase the amount of referrals received to ensure that those most vulnerable, receive the support they require.

Improve the advice and support available for Vale residents experiencing financial and housing difficulties enabling them to maintain a suitable standard of living and to find a route out of poverty.				
	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
	discuss best practice/research undertaken in other authorities	Personal Budgeting Support in place.	Work and Pensions, is looking at new and innovative ways to assist with PBS.	
3	Work with residents to ensure they are receiving correct benefit entitlements and to develop their budget/financial management skills	<p>The Benefit Cap will reduce from Autumn 2016 therefore partners are working together to identify all those who will become affected by the reduced cap and ensure they are made aware of the changes coming into effect and are offered budgeting support.</p> <p>Following a mapping exercise of local services (see action 7); the group are keen to discuss models to ensure clients receive the right advice from the correct specialists and avoid duplication. The group recognise that it is important that the client is directed to the most appropriate organisation for help and support based on their circumstances and are keen to explore the possibility of a 'gateway' model.</p> <p>The next standing agenda item at the Financial Inclusion Group to share ideas will include a demonstration of the Citizens Advice live webchat service. Partners are keen to learn from this and explore new ways of engaging with customers who need</p>	<p>A Benefits general update continues to be discussed as a standing item at the Financial Inclusion Group. The group continue to be updated on both the numbers of residents affected by the future Benefits Cap changes and Discretionary Housing Payments.</p> <p>The Financial Inclusion group received a detailed presentation and demonstration of the Citizens Advice live webchat service in July. Increasingly Citizens Advice are seeing more 'middle income earners' who work during office hours and are digitally competent requiring advice, a live web chat service was piloted as an approach to providing advice in alternative ways. The web chat service was piloted in its first phase by a number of branches, including the Cardiff and Vale branch with these advisors working on the web chats, although clients from across the UK could access the service.</p>	Continue to provide a range of services to develop budgeting skills.

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
		support. The Families First 'Raising Awareness of Welfare Rights' project will continue to be funded for 2016/17 to help ensure families are receiving their correct benefit entitlements.		
4	Continue to develop a range of tools to provide a customer focused housing (plus) advice and options service	Work to continue to develop the tool.	We are currently awaiting the new release of the OHMS Housing Management software in order for the on-line Housing Advice tool to become fully functional. The Council's Housing Solutions Service is currently in discussions with the Vale of Glamorgan Citizens Advice to provide a drop in service for households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.	Further development of the housing advice tool is reliant upon the release of the new OHMS Housing Management software. While awaiting this update we will continue to identify and develop further support and advice opportunities.
5	Utilise a range of information gathered including the use of Foodbanks and reasons for referrals to help inform the Public Health team work to develop a Food Charter and Network for the Vale of Glamorgan.	Due to staff shortages as a result of long term sick leave within the Public Health Team the charter has not yet been published however this work will be reviewed shortly. Capturing baseline data relating to the project is also under development.	An update on the progress of the Food Charter and Network for the Vale of Glamorgan was brought to both the July and October meetings of the Financial Inclusion Group. A network group has been established for the Vale with a working title of 'Food Vale'. A Sensemaker project has also been undertaken, this is a project that has involved collecting qualitative data around the food environment in the Vale, with a particular focus on Barry. Volunteers have been used to collect information around people's experiences with food; feedback on	The first meeting of the Food Vale steering group was held on the 10th November 2016. The group will develop an Action Plan and work on refreshing the mapping of Food Assets in the Vale The group will also work towards the submission of a Sustainable Food cities application, involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of an effective cross-sector food partnership • Embedding healthy and sustainable food in policies

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
			the project has been presented to the network group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and delivery of a food strategy and action plan • Development and production of a food charter.
6	Promote schemes and projects to help reduce energy costs and fuel poverty including Cyd Cymru	<p>Fuel Poverty remains high on the agenda for the Financial Inclusion Group and a mapping exercise will take place (see action 7) to determine services which currently exist across partners.</p> <p>The NEST partnership manager for the Vale of Glamorgan will attend the next meeting of the group to provide an update on NEST services and contribute to strategic discussions as the group are keen to ensure that issues around fuel poverty in the private sector are also captured.</p> <p>Hafod will provide feedback to the group on the Oxypod trial once the official results are available.</p>	<p>Registration for the collective switching scheme Cyd Cymru is currently closed. Since 2014 the programme has helped over 4,000 households switch saving a total of over £950,000.</p> <p>The group is awaiting an update from Hafod Housing on the Oxypod trial. It is anticipated that this will be received when official results are available.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor the Cyd Cymru programme for confirmation of the dates of the next switch period.</p> <p>When official results of Oxypod trial are made available the group will invite Hafod to provide an update.</p>

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	Task	May 2016 - Next Steps	December 2016 Update	What are the next steps?
7	Develop and implement a Financial Inclusion Strategy for the Vale of Glamorgan	An in depth questionnaire developed by the Wales Cooperative Centre has been adapted for the Vale of Glamorgan (with permission to do so) to assist with the mapping exercise. The questionnaire will be circulated shortly. The results of the exercise will be made available to partners as a resource and discussion are on-going into how this is presented. Results will feed into other work being undertaken by the group such as being able to identify gaps in services relating to fuel poverty and to begin informing discussion around a gateway model for money advice support as per action 3.	<p>A mapping exercise to identify gaps in provision and overlaps in client bases has been started by the group; however there was a limited response to the mapping questionnaire.</p> <p>Following initial momentum in the delivery of the strategy, changes in membership of the group including its chairperson and increasing pressures across all members of the group has resulted in a loss of focus in delivering the strategy.</p>	It has been agreed that when a new permanent chair person is in place new leads and timescales will be assigned to the actions in the strategy to regain momentum.

Further Actions	
<p>Are there any changes needed to the delivery plan?</p>	<p>Any Additional Actions Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Any Amendments Requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<p>PSB Response</p> <p>Does the PSB agree or have any further revisions or additions? (For use at the PSB)</p>	<p>The PSB noted the good progress being made and requested that Citizen’s Advice continue to Chair meetings of the Financial Inclusion Group until a permanent Chair is appointed if possible.</p>