Vale of Glamorgan Business Intelligence Group
Well-being Assessment Workshop – 19th November 2015

Feedback Report to LSB

Workshop Overview

The workshop was held on the 19th November at the Civic Offices and was attended by a range of organisations shown at the end of this report. The session began with a presentation providing an overview of the requirements of the Act, focusing on the Well-being Assessment and the various elements that the assessment will need to incorporate.

Delegates were split into three facilitated discussion groups to consider a range of questions. Each group were asked to consider the same question set with a comfort break part way through. The questions considered are outlined as below and a summary of the key comments/ observations made is also outlined within this report.

Part 1

1. What lessons can be learnt from the work undertaken to produce the 2013 UNA refresh?
2. How do we integrate the findings of the range of other assessments specified within the guidance?
3. What community areas within the Vale of Glamorgan can be identified that would work best for the analysis required?

Break

During the comfort break, delegates were provided with an A3 map of the Vale and were asked to draw the communities they would use for the assessment onto the map.

Part 2

1. What opportunities are there to undertake parts of the assessment at a regional level?
2. How do we best approach the assessment of the 'wellbeing of people' as outlined in the guidance?
3. Thinking about the earlier discussion on the 2013 Unified Needs Assessment, are there any suggestions on approaches you would like to make regarding the format/ presentation of the assessment?
4. Do you have any general comments/ suggestions to make on how we should now approach the work?

Summary of Key Comments and Observations

Lessons Learnt from 2013 UNA

- The approach of appointing chapter leads to write parts of the 2013 UNA led to a fragmented approach and created difficulties when trying to form the work into a cohesive document and analyse the overall findings – both in terms of capacity and skills.

- For this assessment there needs to be clear direction from the outset what the expectations are so people are aware of their role and what resources will be required.

- There was a good range of partners involved previously which is important.

Incorporating Other Assessments

- Links to the other assessments with a brief summary of findings should be used in order to reduce the length of the document.

- Membership of the Business Intelligence Group should be reviewed in order to involve those working on other assessments.

- Leads for these assessments will be required to provide the overall findings as a central contact would not have capacity to read every assessment listed and identify key findings.

Communities

- Support for limiting the number of communities to be included. There was a general consensus that that three strategic areas used previously work well as these mirror GP cluster areas and education works in the same way – Barry, Eastern Vale and Western Vale.

- However some delegates felt that the diversity across the rural Vale needs to be recognised and classing the whole of the western Vale as one community could mask issues.

- There was mixed opinion on whether communities should be based on characteristics or geography. Geographical boundaries can work better with regards to data availability however identifying communities due to similar characteristics allows for certain issues to be explored.

Regional Approach

- There was support for the Health and Social Care aspect of the assessment to be based on a regional footprint then broken down to communities.

- Some commented that regional work could include more than just a Cardiff and Vale focus.

- It was recognised that some information may only be available on a regional basis e.g. from a service provider who covers a wider area – and we may have to pay to get the information at a Vale or smaller level.

- We need to begin conversations with regional partners in addition to Social Services to ensure we are not repeating information or duplicating effort.

Engagement

- Need to ensure there is regular contact with the new Commissioner and Welsh Government.

- Need to utilise the engagement mechanisms we already have in place such as the Youth Cabinet and 50+ Forum. Partners should identify the various engagement tools they have available in order to fully utilise these mechanisms.

- Need to be mindful that issues such as data protection may arise.

Presentation and Use

- The 2013 UNA is very large, we need to make more use of infographics to make it more accessible.

- May need to develop a package of formats for different audiences e.g. a large document with everything, an executive summary, and a series of infographics.

- Although the presentation of any published version should be user friendly, the complete work including any back office research etc. that is not formatted for instance should still be made available in order not to waste the amount of resources that will be collected through the process.

- InfoBase Vale is recognised as more user friendly than the 2013 UNA but doesn't provide the interpretation and overall analysis of findings.

- There needs to be a discussion with IT colleagues with regards to what is possible and options available to present the findings in an accessible way, however there also needs to be a recognition that this may require resourcing.

- There needs to be a recognition that the main use of the assessment is to inform our priorities for the plan we need to be able to engage with it, understand it and use it but recognise that it will not provide everything for everyone.

General Comments

- A selective approach to the data included should be used, quality not quantity. We need to be confident about what we do and don't include.

- Need to recognise that there will be data development element to this work where we recognise that it would be useful to have information but work will need to take place to develop this.

- A common data set would be useful but doesn't give the story behind the data

- The issue of proposed Local Government reorganisation may complicate matters.

- Recognise we are all new to this and will be learning as we undertake the assessment

- Importance of planning.

Outcomes

From the discussions held a number of actions to be undertaken were identified as below.

- Strategy and Partnership Team officers to meet with colleagues working on the Social Services Population Assessment to ensure alignment between the two assessments and explore opportunities to integrate.

- Research the list of other assessments outlined in the guidance with regards to timeframes and information included.

- Undertake an awareness raising exercise for officers to better understand the requirements of the Act.

- Consider holding a follow up workshop once final guidance is issued.

- Review the membership of the Business Intelligence Group to include Creative Rural Communities, Natural Resources Wales, lead officers on other assessments and to ensure the right people from the right organisations are part of the group.

- Fire Service to be invited to present to the Business Intelligence Group on their planning process which is based on risk.

- The Local Government Data Unit National Intelligence Group event (Spring 2016) will focus on Well-being Assessments – Strategy and Partnership Team officers to attend.

- Develop outline proposals for a way forward that meets the needs of partners, and statutory timeframes and which will produce an assessment that the PSB can use to develop its priorities.

Next Steps

December 2015	Work to commence to undertake actions identified above.
January 2016	Business Intelligence Group meeting: feedback from the workshop to be presented and further discussion to take place.
February 2016	Draft proposals for undertaking the assessment to be presented to the Vale Local Service Board
April 2016	Final proposals to be presented to the first Vale Public Service Board meeting for endorsement.

Well-being Assessment Workshop Attendance List

Cardiff and Vale UHB
VoGC – Performance and Development
Barry Communities First
South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Cardiff and Vale Public Health Team
VoGC – Equalities

Safer Vale
VoGC – Media and Engagement
VoGC – Housing Strategy
VoGC – Social Services
Creative Rural Communities
VoGC – Learning and Skills
VoGC – Planning and Transport
Local Government Data Unit

N.B Natural Resources Wales unable to attend due to Celsa explosion. Apologies noted and colleagues to receive copies of feedback report.