

**Swansea Public Services Board**  
**Assessment of Local Well-being 2017**

*The evidence base for Swansea's Well-being Plan*

**APRIL 2017**



## Swansea's Assessment of Local Well-being 2017

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## **Introduction:** Message from Swansea Public Services Board

Welcome.

This document is the start of a conversation about well-being in Swansea.

As a partnership we have explored different aspects of well-being in Swansea. We have looked at Swansea as a whole and at community level issues. We have tried to understand what matters most.

At the heart of this assessment are 19 different aspects of well-being in Swansea. We have suggested a score for each between zero and ten – where zero is the worst that things can be and ten is the best that things can be.

Before you dive in, however, let us tell you a little more about the assessment.

### *About this Assessment*

The main purpose of this assessment is to help Swansea Public Services Board identify a small number of well-being objectives. These will contribute to the Wales well-being goals that have been set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. These are:

- **A prosperous Wales:** An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
- **A resilient Wales:** A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).
- **A healthier Wales:** A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
- **A more equal Wales:** A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
- **A Wales of cohesive communities:** Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
- **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:** A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
- **A globally responsible Wales:** A globally responsible Wales. A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It will make public bodies think more about the long-term, work better with each other, people and communities as well as look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. This will help to create a Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future.

As well as helping the Public Services Board to identify their well-being objectives, we hope that this assessment will also be a valuable resource for anyone working around any of the issues covered. We also hope that it will be a focus for debate and discussion.

### *What do we mean by 'well-being'?*

Of course 'well-being' is a far from straightforward concept. Here we take well-being to be the environmental, economic, social and cultural factors which determine a person's quality of life.

We have identified six well-being outcomes that represent the kind of place we would like Swansea to be and have structured our assessment around these. Our well-being outcomes are:

- Children have a good start in life
- People learn successfully
- Young people and adults have good jobs
- People have a decent standard of living
- People are healthy, safe and independent
- People have good places to live, work and visit.

These population outcomes reflect the objectives designed to address health inequalities set out in the report 'Fair Society Health Lives' (The Marmot Review) as well as our own aspirations to tackle poverty and reduce economic inactivity. They were developed in partnership in 2015 and reviewed by the Public Services Board in 2016 to ensure a good fit with the National Well-being Goals.

For each outcome we have identified a small number of 'primary drivers' – those things that need to be in place if our well-being outcomes are to be a reality. In this way we have been able to break down the complex concept of well-being into issues that people will recognise and understand. These 19 primary drivers are the aspects of well-being that we have suggested well-being scores for.

### *Why have we suggested well-being scores?*

For each of the primary drivers we have suggested a well-being score from between zero and ten where zero is the worst things can be and ten is the best.

Of course the well-being scores are not 'scientific' measures. They are judgements made at a particular time, by particular people taking into account the evidence available. They need to be justified and debated and may always be contentious. They provide, however, a number of benefits:

- A clear focus for debate and discussion

- Scores are easy to explain and to get people engaged – the approach lends itself easily to public involvement
- A way to consider the positive assets in the community as well as problems
- A way to consider qualitative evidence alongside quantitative evidence
- A way to be ambitious about the future and realistic – even if the score is debateable, asking “how can we make this score ‘+ 1’?” provides a focus on improvement
- A framework for assessing progress – we can ask whether a score has gone up or down and by how much
- A framework for talking to different people and communities about the Assessment of Local Well-being.

### *Producing this Assessment*

The Assessment has been produced in two stages following a plan agreed at a multi-agency workshop in 2016. First a draft document was produced and shared in a public consultation during January and February 2017. The results of this consultation were then carefully considered by a multi-agency task group and changes fed into this revised document. In line with the National Principles of Public Engagement we have listed all of the proposals we heard from the consultation along with how we have responded to each, in a separate Feedback Report.

### *The Consultation Draft*

The evidence in the consultation draft was compiled by the Research Group of Swansea Public Services Board – a multi-agency team of researchers and analysts. Swansea Public Services Board is a partnership of public agencies working in Swansea. You can find more details about it on the website [here](#).

Collaboration has been a key factor in producing the assessment. Work on the content for each of the outcomes has been coordinated by six ‘outcome leads’ – from ABMU Health Board, Public Health Wales, Swansea Environmental Forum and the Council. The Research Group has undertaken this work in the context of very limited resources but we hope that this foundation of partnership working can lead to greater collaboration for future assessments.

We are really grateful therefore to the Research Group, which includes a number of different public and voluntary sector bodies, who have pulled a broad range of evidence together in what has been a very short period of time.

During January and February 2017 the public and organisations were invited to look at our draft assessment, including suggested well-being scores, and give us their feedback.

We wanted to know:

- What people thought about well-being in Swansea as whole?
- What well-being issues affect different communities?
- Whether people agreed with the well-being scores suggested?
- What evidence was missed?

We received 159 responses to our public survey and 10 written replies from organisations. While we would hope to increase the volume of responses in future consultations we felt that the model worked well and that the use of scaling was helpful for the public engagement in particular. Generally it was reassuring to find that the public responses to the proposed scores we received were similar, if not the same, as our own suggestions. The method also helped us to generate quantitative data for us to incorporate into our analysis – in all we received 474 separate text responses.

### *The new evidence we have considered*

As part of the consultation a number of additional sources of evidence have been considered including:

- Feedback from the regional community engagement recently undertaken by Miller Research UK – appointed by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, on behalf of Bridgend CBC, Neath Port Talbot CBC, the City & County of Swansea and ABMU Health Board to support this process and the population assessment required by the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014. Funding for this engagement has been provided by Welsh Government on a regional basis. The Swansea report ‘Qualitative Evidence for the Assessment of Local Well-being: Citizen engagement report’ is included as Annex 4.
- A number of organisation responses made both specific and general points in respect of the draft assessment. These have been directly addressed where time has allowed, or will be built in to a longer-term development programme for the Public Services Board to take forward. A table of recommendations and the Board’s agreed response is included in the Feedback Report at Annex 5. The organisation responses are also included in full in this report.
- Local public engagement: with the assessment content and suggested ‘well-being’ score provided as a starting point, the public were asked to score (0-10) and provide comments on their perceptions of our (19) primary drivers and (6) population outcomes. The feedback received is included within the Feedback Report (Annex 5).

### *The Final Assessment*

This final version of the 2017 Well-being Assessment for Swansea was considered and agreed by Swansea Public Services Board at their meeting on 12 April 2017.

While this marks the conclusion of the assessment process for 2016/2017 there is still a great deal of further work to be done. There is plenty of scope for the assessment to be improved and a number of issues raised in the consultation that we could not address at this stage. Some gaps in the evidence have also been identified and these will need to be considered either locally or nationally. For this reason a further update is planned for 12 months’ time and the Research Group will be working on a number of these issues in the meantime. These are listed in Annex 6.

However, some of the issues raised in the consultation will require further consideration by the Public Services Board (these are also summarised in Annex 6).

We see this Assessment as very much the beginning of a conversation about well-being in Swansea; not the end. We hope it will provide a useful resource and stimulate debate and discussion.

### *Following the Sustainable Development Principle*

In producing this document we have been mindful of the five ways of working that underpin the sustainable development principle included in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

**Long term:** When thinking about our outcomes, drivers and summary well-being scores we have considered both short term issues and possible future trends and taken both into account

**Prevention:** We have considered Swansea's strengths and how the assets we have might help prevent problems occurring or getting worse in future

**Integration:** The well-being scores in the assessment will help the different public bodies in Swansea identify their shared and individual well-being goals in a joined-up way

**Collaboration:** The assessment has been produced in partnership by the different bodies participating in Swansea Public Services Board and represents their shared view

**Involvement:** We shared our work early in the process and asked a range of organisations and individual practitioners to contribute. We also invited the public to contribute. In the assessment the public scores are published alongside our own suggested scores, in some cases leading to a revised score.

### *Next Steps*

While we believe that this Assessment is valuable in its own right, we are clear that its main purpose is to inform a Well-being Plan for Swansea that will make a real difference for citizens.

We have set up a multi-agency Planning Group to produce this plan and have agreed a 12 month timeline to ensure that the plan is produced by May 2018. This process will draw on the content of this Assessment and include:

- Drafting a set of local objectives and steps to address them
- Receiving advice from the Future Generations Commissioner
- Gathering information from partners
- Undertaking Integrated Impact and Equality Assessments
- Consultation with the public before the final objectives are agreed.

Throughout the process there will be opportunities for the public and other interested stakeholders to contribute so we hope you will help us to make the Well-being Plan the best it can be!

### ***Swansea Public Services Board***

## Background to the assessment

In 2016, Swansea Public Services Board reviewed its existing population outcomes and primary drivers – developed via an extensive process of research and engagement – in order to ensure consistency with the Welsh Government’s four identified strands of well-being (economic, social, cultural and environmental) and the seven national well-being goals included in the Act. As a result of this review, some changes and additions to outcomes and primary drivers were made. This assessment is structured against these outcomes and the drivers within them.

Further information on the background to the Act and Swansea’s approach to the assessment of local well-being is included in Annex 3, available at the web page [www.swansea.gov.uk/psb](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/psb)

## How the assessment is structured: Drivers of well-being

The summary table on page 13 sets out in a single page Swansea’s six population outcomes and 19 primary drivers. Each of the main sections or chapters of this assessment, corresponding with our six population outcomes, begins with the driver diagram for each, showing both the current primary and secondary drivers. Whilst for the purposes of summary analysis, only the evidence base at primary driver level is directly included, in each case this will be informed by the secondary drivers and issues arising in them.

In order to provide a coherent structure for analysis across diverse subject areas, the process used by those working on this assessment has developed in two main phases:

- **Gathering evidence:** compiling the detailed individual sources of evidence and analysis associated with each primary driver.
- **Preparing driver summaries:** bringing together the key sources of evidence for each driver, so forming the basis for the core content within the assessment.

It is anticipated that the more detailed evidence base will become available via a dedicated web page, and maintained and developed over time.

## Driver summary content

In this document, the summaries aim to consider the available evidence around well-being associated with each of our primary drivers in a common format, which includes the following aspects:

- **Evidence:** a simple listing of sources currently included in the evidence base for the primary driver.
- **Suggested well-being score:** reflecting a judgement based on the different aspects of the evidence gathered – i.e. on a scale of zero to ten, where zero represents the worst things can be and ten the best they can be, this driver has a score of 'x'. The draft assessment reflected our initial overall view of the available evidence around well-being for the driver in question. This assessment includes the public survey score from the recent consultation, and any revisions to the overall driver score.

- **Swansea's strengths:** the main strengths or assets around this driver. It reflects a shift away from a 'needs-based' approach and a greater focus on well-being (in line with the Act). The analysis here includes the strengths in the population or environment that support this driver (and the evidence behind it), and an outline of the services, policies and partnerships that support it.
- **Changes over time:** the relevant and available trend information associated with the evidence around this driver.
- **Comparisons with other places:** both with/within Wales and the UK, as appropriate.
- **Differences within Swansea:** comparisons between our identified community areas, or other local areas/geographies (if evidence at this level is not available); and different aspects of well-being affecting different population groups, including those noted in the Act.
- **Perceptions and perspectives:** relevant survey evidence (public opinion), research reports, inspections and commentaries, and anecdotal evidence (where reflecting the balance of opinion).
- **Future prospects:** what will happen if nothing different happens, i.e. if the current situation and direction continues; and how expected future trends may impact on this driver.
- **What would improvement look like:** in simple terms, what would we expect to see if we were to give a score +1, for example, to the one shown? (e.g. indicator(s) that need to improve, any other evidence we would want to see).
- **About the evidence:** commentary on the evidence source(s) for this driver, any links between sources, their strengths and limitations, and any contradictions between them. This section also includes identified gaps in the evidence and any further work and analysis required; both in the short and the longer term.

## About Swansea and its community areas

### *Key facts and trends*

Situated in the middle of the South Wales coast, Swansea is the second largest city in Wales. A summary of recent statistics about people living in the City and County is included below:

- Swansea's population: 242,400 (mid-2015), almost 8% of the population of Wales, with a population density of 638 people per sq. km.
- Its population structure is relatively typical, but shows a pronounced spike in the 19-22 age groups, linked to the presence and intake of university students to Swansea.
- Between 2005 and 2015, the population increased by 13,000 people (5.7%), with most of the recent growth via international migration.
- Significant population growth over this decade recorded in the proportions aged 20-29 and upper age groups, with an additional 1,200 people (+23.7%) aged 85 and over.
- Life expectancy at birth in Swansea now stands at 78.0 years (males) and 82.4 (females). Over the last ten years, life expectancy has increased by around 2 years for both males and females.
- Swansea's population is projected to grow by 21,600 (9.0%) by 2039, the third highest projected growth rate in Wales, with an increase of 18,400 (+39.8%) in those aged 65 and over.
- 105,300 households live in Swansea (2015), with an average household size of approximately 2.23 people. 36,500 (34.3%) are single adult households, increasing by 2,600 in the last five years.
- Census estimates suggest a non-white ethnic population of around 14,300 – 6.0% of Swansea's total population (2011). Chinese and Bangladeshi are the largest non-white ethnic groups (total: 4,000).
- The proportion (aged 3+) in Swansea able to speak Welsh decreased to 11.4% (26,300) in the ten years to 2011, but is increasing amongst under 16s.
- Swansea has a key role within the South West Wales sub-region as a service sector-focussed economy with a high proportion of public sector jobs.
- Economic activity and employment in Swansea is close to equivalent Wales rates, but below UK rates.
- A relatively high proportion of residents (aged 16-64) with higher level qualifications (NVQ 3+) live in Swansea, but also those with no qualifications.
- Swansea acts as a sub-regional hub, with significant daily in-commuting from neighbouring authorities Neath Port Talbot (13,200) and Carmarthenshire (8,600).

A more complete statistical profile of Swansea and its people is available as Annex 1 to this assessment, via the web page [www.swansea.gov.uk/psb](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/psb)

## Swansea's Community Areas

The Assessment of Local Well-being is required to set out the 'community areas' within the Board's area; which should be locality areas which have a sense of identity but large enough to show differences between them.

For the purposes of this assessment, the city and county is split into six community areas, consisting of groups of LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas):

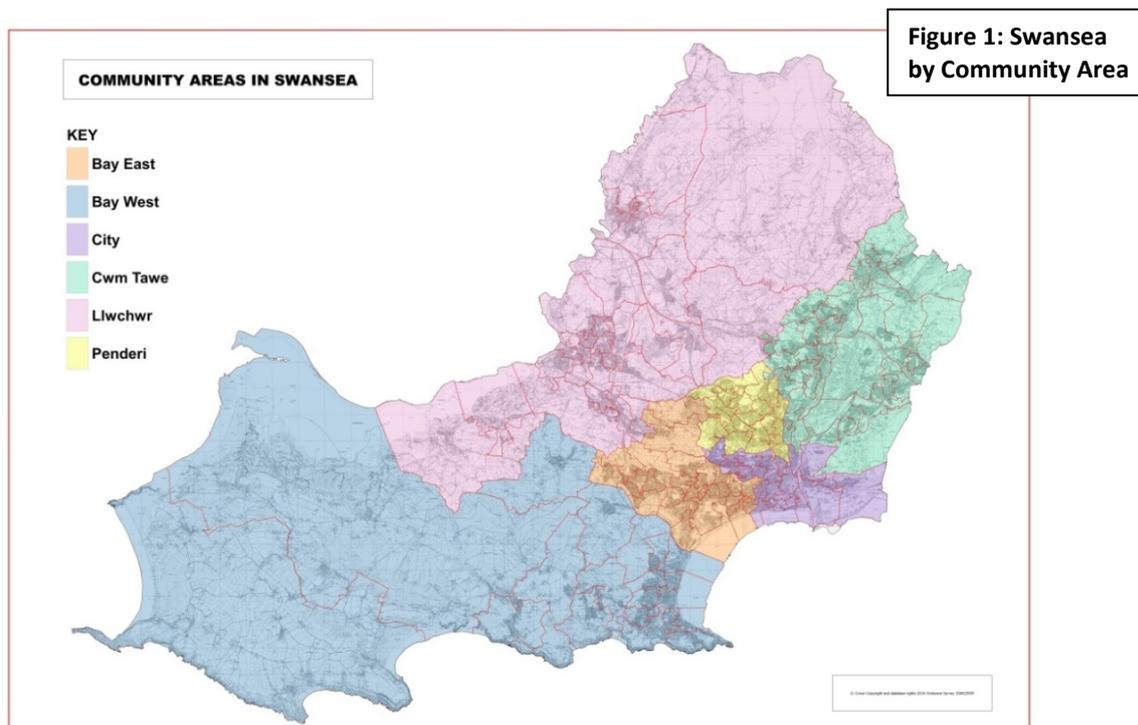
- Bay East
- Bay West
- City
- Cwm Tawe
- Llchwyr
- Penderi

Summary statistical information about each of these areas is included in Annex 2.

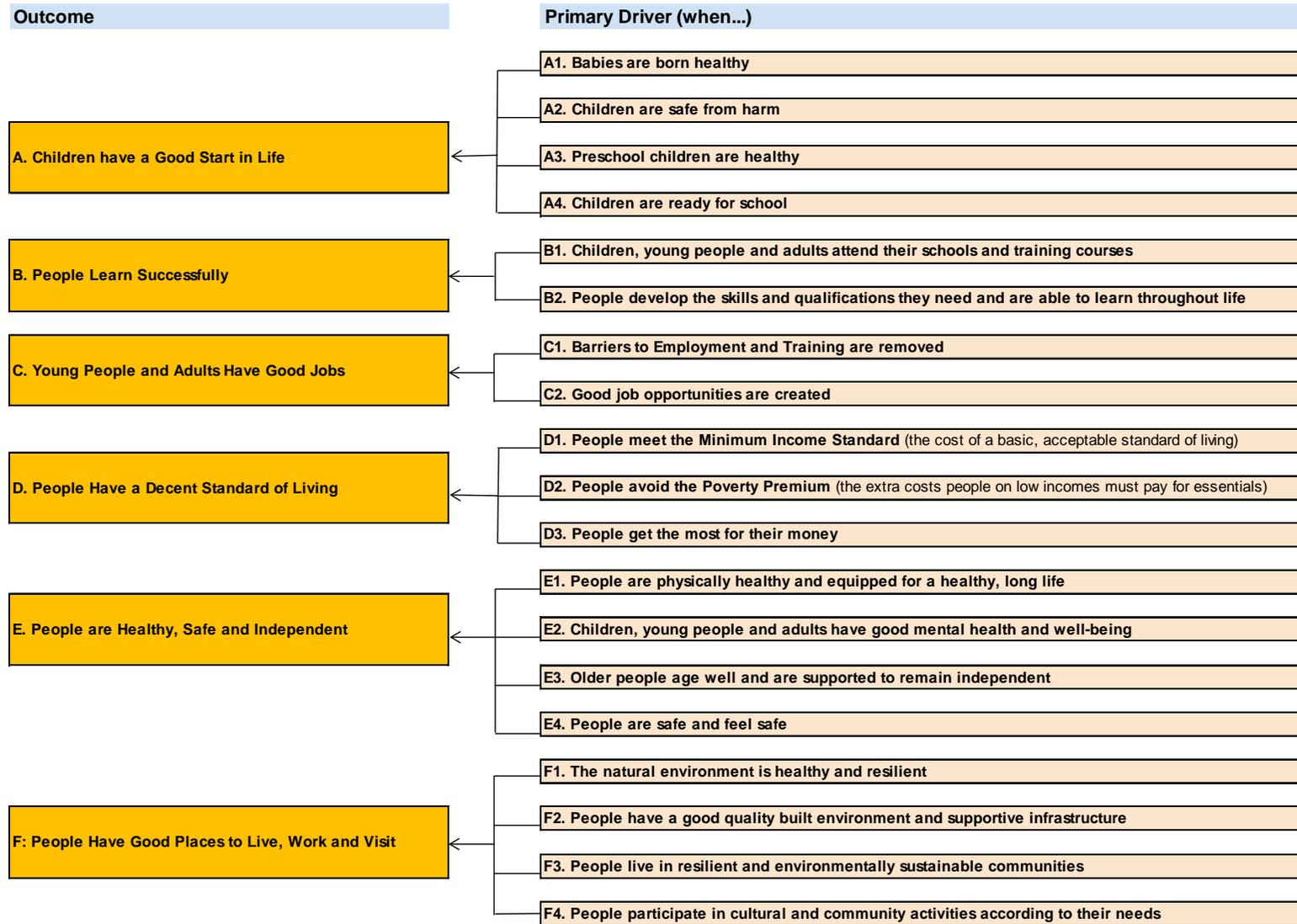
These areas mostly coincide with our local Primary Care Network Areas. These are part of an all-Wales network of GP cluster areas in widespread use across the health and social care sectors in particular. However, the largest of them ('Bay') is split into East and West areas. Table 1 and figure 1 below outline the location and key population data about these areas.

**Table 1: Community areas in Swansea – summary population / area statistics:**

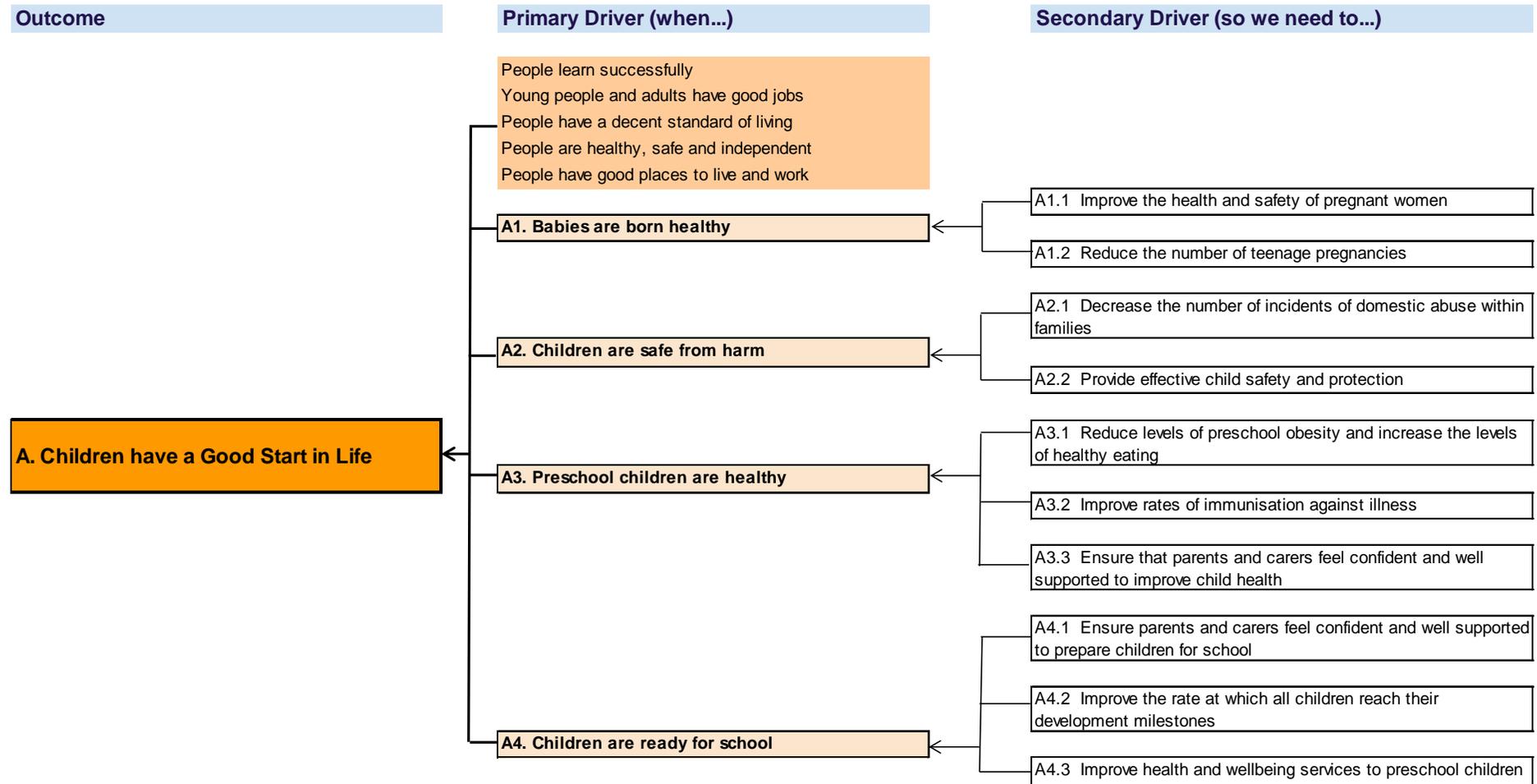
Community Area:	Population (2015 est.)	Area (sq km)	Density (p/sqkm)
Bay East	42,000	19	2,210
Bay West	28,900	158	180
City	37,800	12	3,250
Cwm Tawe	57,500	45	1,280
Llchwyr	44,700	137	330
Penderi	31,600	9	3,430
<i>County total</i>	<i>242,400</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>640</i>



## Assessment of local well-being: Swansea's Well-being Outcomes and Primary Drivers



## Outcome A: Children have a good start in life



## About this Outcome

A good start in life for our children is the key to community well-being for all. The pre-school years are the time when the biggest difference can be made, and research suggests that the peak time for early years brain development is between 0 and 3 years old. If children have a good start in life they are likely to be healthier, likely to be better learners and less likely to experience deprivation. Positive early years experiences are vital to develop the necessary resilience and mitigate against adverse impacts, so helping to break these links. These factors lead in turn to a greater likelihood of a good job and of gaining a better standard of living, be more able to look after the environment and contribute to safe and prosperous communities.

A focus on early years interventions was a key component of the Marmot Review into health inequalities, stating that “the foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, emotional – are laid in early childhood”. The Marmot report specifically aimed to:

- reduce inequalities in the early development of physical and emotional health and cognitive, linguistic and social skills;
- ensure high quality maternity services, parenting programmes, childcare and early years education to meet need across the social gradient;
- build resilience and well-being of young children across the social gradient.

The driver diagram splits Outcome A into four key aspects of child development, relating to birth (Primary Driver A1), safety (A2), health (A3) and school readiness (A4). However, all six population outcomes are interconnected and other factors (or drivers) can also impact on the outcome – ‘Children have a Good Start in Life’.

The available evidence around these drivers suggests a mixed picture overall; on many of the relevant measures, Swansea is relatively close to the Wales average, although a recurring theme is the often substantial differences between different areas of Swansea. However, there is a range of local activity in place or being developed which aims to improve these different aspects of child well-being and reduce the gap.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome A

### A1: Babies are born healthy

<b>Evidence:</b>	Proportion of low birth weight (LBW) babies and the inequality gap
	Smoking rates and obesity and the inequality gap
	Administration of MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine pre conception
	Immunisation of pregnant mothers against influenza
	Immunisation against pertussis (whooping cough) in pregnant women
	Issuing of Vitamin D Supplements (Healthy Start scheme)
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>6</b> – The suggested well-being score reflects a judgement that Swansea is not dissimilar to the Wales average in many respects, and that a number of positive initiatives are in progress. However, the challenges for Swansea include the persistent high smoking rates, poor diet and low levels of physical activity as reflected in the numbers of overweight and obese pregnant women, and the need to support positive mental health and help strengthen resilience for vulnerable families. A major challenge for Swansea lies in addressing the inequalities in health between people living in the least and most deprived communities and the variations between these communities in breastfeeding rates, low birth weight and under-18s conception rates in particular.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 6</li> <li>• Comments given for this driver were centred around more help/support and guidance from midwives and health visitors (<i>‘There needs to be more back to basics guidance’</i>)</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 6.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea’s strengths

- Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitoring is offered to all pregnant women in the ABMU area and women who smoke are automatically referred to Stop Smoking Wales (SSW). There are around 18-20% of all pregnant women who admit to smoking while pregnant and these women are offered a variety of services ranging from one-to-one counselling to Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT).
- A new programme is working with inpatient pregnant women. In this, in-house pharmacy ‘quit smoking’ practitioners identify champions on the wards. The champions will contact the quit practitioner when a patient who smokes is admitted and then support and guidance is offered. This is an attempt to support the “Smoke Free Hospitals” campaign while at the same time encouraging women to quit while an inpatient. It is hoped that this may also impact on visitors who currently stand outside the main entrances and smoke.
- Pregnancy specific exercise classes are available to women who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 35 or over. The classes are organised by National Exercise Referral Scheme (NERS) and supported by Sport Wales and Public Health Wales. The classes are offered at a reduced rate and at various locations, times and days of the week. All women can attend; however women with raised BMI need to be referred via maternity services. Currently, 26% of pregnant women in ABMU are overweight or obese.

- The messages given out on the 'Baby TV' used in antenatal clinic areas are being changed to provide up to date advice on what is safe exercise in pregnancy; to encourage more women to either continue or start new exercise.
- The Women & Child Health Facebook page is updated with information about exercise safety in pregnancy and the NERS programme.
- All pregnant women are offered Pertussis vaccination during pregnancy.
- Flu vaccination is offered during flu season to all women pregnant at that time. Data about uptake rates is being gathered to see if there is a better way of working together for the benefit of pregnant women and their families.
- The Perinatal Response and Management Service (PRAMS) is being expanded to Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. This award winning service has offered perinatal mental health support to women in the Bridgend area for several years now. With the extra funding made available by Welsh Government, the service was expanded and offered to all women with a need throughout the ABMU area. This service reduces the risk of adverse childhood experiences (ACE) and will reduce the chance of suffering from mental health issues when older.
- The Health Visiting service is developing a Perinatal Service model as per NICE guidance with pathways in and out of PRAMS. Groups are planned for spring 2017.
- The expanding Jig-so and Flying Start teams work with vulnerable families in an attempt to improve outcomes for this disadvantaged group. Support is offered via a team of midwives, nursery nurses, parenting and early language development practitioners who work with families to improve their skills in nutrition, parenting and relationships, so promoting the importance of a healthy diet and early communication and attachment via evidenced based Programmes such as Gro Brain.
- To date the Jig-so project can evidence how it has provided parenting skills and relationship interventions for young parents prior to birth.
- There is work ongoing around breastfeeding and attachment as part of the 'Baby Friendly Initiative' (BFI), which is happening in conjunction with other work being done with health visitor teams relating to weaning. Weaning is important for the future development of a healthy attachment to food. Teaching infants to understand hunger, to eat when hungry and to stop eating when full are key to understanding obesity and overeating later in life.

### **Changes over time**

- The Swansea rate for teenage pregnancy is below the Welsh average and has reduced over last few years; however there are higher rates in more deprived areas.
- In the last decade the percentage of low birth weight babies in England and Wales has remained fairly stable. In Swansea (2014), 4.5% of babies were low birth weight, compared with a Wales average of 5.1%.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- The teenage pregnancy rate (under-18 conceptions) in Swansea is 21.7 per 1000, below the Wales average (25.4 per 1000).
- In 2013 the proportion of low birth weight babies for the ABMU area (6.3%) was similar to the Welsh and England averages and there is little variation across Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea.

### Differences within Swansea

- There is significant variation in under-18 conception rates by MSOA between poor and affluent areas, with generally higher rates recorded in the more urban areas of Swansea.
- Breast feeding rates at birth are about 62% but decrease at 10 days, 6 weeks and 6 months. In 2014 there was a 29% difference in breast feeding at birth between the least and most deprived communities in Swansea. Early findings through the Jig-so Project show that breastfeeding rates amongst young mothers are 63%, slightly above national average across all age ranges of 60%. This could be associated with the peer support provided through the groups where breastfeeding has been normalised.
- There is a clear social gradient in the proportion of low birth weight babies; which are 1.7 times higher in Swansea's most deprived areas.

### Future prospects

- A service mapping exercise is going to be undertaken during the spring of 2017 as part of the First 1000 Days Programme led by Public Health Wales to look at how we can improve our responses to need and vulnerability and prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences. This will give a much clearer picture in order to advise future plans and priorities.

### What would improvement look like?

- The aspiration is to roll out the Jig-so project so that support is available to all vulnerable parents regardless of their age during this critical stage of their child's life. This would mean the provision of a holistic, universal service from -9 months to 3 years that is available to any parent proportionate to need, including antenatal support, parenting skills, parental relationships and self-help and this would complement and enhance core services.

### About the evidence

- A lot of evidence is available from the Marmot work on 'Best start', from conception to age 2; together with other work, including the WAVE Trust evidence and Adverse Childhood Experiences.

## A2: Children are safe from harm

<b>Evidence:</b>	Incidence of domestic abuse within the household
	Extent of timely, appropriate support and interventions to prevent escalation
	Measures of substance misuse and mental ill health (linked to parental domestic abuse and child safety)
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>6</b> – Substantial multi-agency work is taking place around domestic abuse and its effects on children but this continues to be a major challenge for Swansea. Safeguarding and child protection arrangements are strong and specialist support is available through a number of different projects and initiatives across Swansea. However, parental drug and alcohol misuse and mental ill health which have significant impacts on children's experiences and the ability to keep them safe from harm also continue to present significant challenges in

	communities across Swansea.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 7. The average score given by the public was 6</li> <li>• Comments given for this driver included a desire for expanded opportunities to prevent harm to children and to raise public awareness of the support available</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 7.</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is embedded in schools. The Rights Respecting Schools Award programme supports schools to embed the UNCRC in their practice to improve child well-being.
- All schools in Swansea are part of the Healthy Schools Scheme. In addition, some nurseries participate in the Healthy Pre-school Scheme.
- Application of anti-bullying policies.
- Swansea has a strong Domestic Abuse Multi-agency Partnership with clear and formalised arrangements for working.
- Domestic abuse is a PSB priority and a Council strategic priority.
- There are two Domestic Abuse Schools Programmes in Swansea – the SPECTRUM Project and the RAY Project – that deliver Healthy Relationship sessions in schools.
- Domestic abuse has become both a Welsh Government and local authority priority with ground breaking new legislation to support this work.
- Some initiatives in Swansea have been hailed as best practice across the country. A number of domestic abuse groups focus on specific areas of work; work with children being one of them.
- Many statutory and third sector agencies contribute to the county wide approach to safeguarding, with measures in place to support officers to be proactive. For example, the Fire & Rescue Service ensure that families with young children are provided with home safety advice and that homes have working smoke alarms, and the Council's Housing services support families in need by identifying sources of help and where needed providing items such as baby packs and furniture.

### Perceptions and perspectives

- An estimated 130,000 children in the UK live in households with high-risk domestic abuse; that is, where there is a significant risk of harm or death. Many thousands more live daily with lower level domestic abuse. A strong relationship has already been shown between the maltreatment of children in the home and domestic abuse of a parent. For instance, Brandon et al. (2011) showed domestic abuse to be a factor in two thirds of Serious Case Reviews where a child has died.
- In January 2014, the Early Intervention Foundation published a systematic review of literature and research on domestic abuse and children at risk. In a review of multiple studies of child protection cases, it found that domestic abuse was a factor in up to 65% and no less than 26% of families. Three of the seven studies had a prevalence rate of over 50% and another three had a prevalence rate of over a third.
- Humphreys (2006) has shown that children who are exposed to the domestic abuse of a parent often have greater behavioural and emotional problems compared to other children, both internal (such as depression and anxiety) and external (such as

aggression or anti-social behaviour). Neurological studies have shown that exposure to domestic violence and/or direct abuse can also affect the way the brain works. For example, McCrory et al. (2011)

- The literature shows that children who experience the domestic abuse of a parent are also likely to be at risk of other types of abuse. Despite this substantial evidence showing the harm to children from domestic abuse, and the increased risk of direct harm, there is a lack of detailed, up-to-date and consistent data from children about their experiences of living with domestic abuse.

### What would improvement look like?

- Services for children exposed to all levels and experiences of domestic abuse in a timely manner; not just those at the highest end already exposed to serious harm.
- Note: a review of Domestic Abuse Children’s Services in Swansea is currently being undertaken and is due to be published shortly.

### About the evidence

- Analysis around ‘Changes over time’, ‘Comparisons with other places’, ‘Differences within Swansea’ and ‘Future prospects’ are not currently included in this draft.

## A3: Preschool children are healthy

<b>Evidence:</b>	Coverage of all childhood immunisations by age 4 years
	Trends in overweight and obesity in childhood
	Numbers of total teeth removal due to caries by age 3 years
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>5</b> – There are some aspects which are encouraging, and significant strategic and local activity around pre-school child health. However, the challenges for Swansea lie in addressing childhood obesity, poor oral health, the low uptake of routine childhood vaccinations and the incidence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). The available evidence indicates that these challenges are greatest in areas of deprivation where health inequalities persist between our communities.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 5</li> <li>• Comments for this driver mainly centred around the importance of initiatives to promote pre-school health. Although these need to be available in more areas in Swansea (<i>‘the more these initiatives are embedded the better the outcomes should be over time’</i>).</li> </ul>

### Swansea’s strengths

- Joining Healthy Cities and working with the Marmot team has reinforced the importance of the ‘golden thread’ running from strategic to operational level to address health inequalities, well-being, childhood obesity and physical literacy. This builds on long history of partnership working and assets based working with communities and families (e.g. smoke free homes).
- Flu immunisation rates for the ABMU Health Board area in pregnant women were above the target set by Welsh Government at 80.5%.

- The successful rollout of the Healthy & Sustainable Pre-school scheme which currently operates across 38 pre-school settings, with a potential 1384 childcare places positively influenced. It operates across health topics including Nutrition & Oral Health, Physical Activity and Active Play, Mental Emotional Health Wellbeing & Relationships and Environment. The scheme has provided an impetus for settings to focus on both nutritional and physical work with the children in their care.
- Childcare settings not included on the Healthy Pre-School Scheme are encouraged to work towards Gold Snack awards to improve nutrition provision.
- FIS Training Programme provides learning opportunities for childcare practitioners to support health and well-being topics in their setting.
- The opportunities being offered throughout the Flying Start and Families First Programmes for families in relation to cookery, individual and group sessions. A number of projects run healthy family cookery sessions including Families in Schools, Eastside Family Support and Smart Steps. The aim is to build sustainable skills within families to promote healthy cookery in targeted areas.
- In spring 2017, Health Visiting services are piloting a Healthy Teeth Pilot in partnership with the PH Dental and Designed to Smile teams.
- Early Intervention Play team run and facilitate community based and family play sessions as well as upskilling parents to encourage play in households. Examples include the Play Fund, play schemes, Play on Wheels and Family Play. A fundamental element of play is to get children active earlier which will help them be healthier.
- The Families First programme aims to provide a consistent level of services (both hub and outreach based) in four targeted areas in Swansea – Blaenymaes, Penlan, Townhill and Eastside. This would improve accessibility to services in some of our most deprived areas.

### Changes over time

- Childhood obesity data from the latest population survey indicates that Welsh children aged 4-5 years continue to be more likely to be overweight or obese than English children (Wales = 26.5%; England = 22.5%). However, since the first survey in 2011 there appears to be a downward trend in both Wales and at the ABMU area level. National data shows a social gradient to overweight and obesity in children with the more deprived areas having higher levels (in both girls and boys).
- For the ABMU area, the latest figure (2013-14) for girls is 26.4%, down 1.7 %-points on 2011-12, whilst for boys the figure is 27.0%, down 3.6 %-points on 2011-12 (*Source: Public Health Wales Childhood Measurement Programme*).
- Consistent with other Health Boards across Wales, ABMU Health Board has seen an increase in the uptake of routine vaccinations for children aged 1-5 years. However, in Q4-2014 uptake of the '4 in 1' and 'MMR 2' at 5 years remained below the Welsh Government target of 95% (4 in 1 =92.7%; MMR 2 =92.5%). This pattern is the same across the three ABMU area local authorities.
- Health Visiting offers a targeted domiciliary immunisation approach and is piloting weekend clinics.
- Poor oral health starts early in childhood. A dental epidemiological survey of 3 year olds was undertaken for the first time in Wales in 2013-2014.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Since the first survey in 2011 there appears to be a downward trend in overweight and obesity at both Wales and ABMU area level. National data shows a social gradient in children with the more deprived areas having higher levels, for both girls and boys.
- Data show that percentage of children in ABM area with at least one tooth affected by decay is higher than the Welsh average and statistically higher than the England average.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Fluenz uptake data for 2-3 year olds (2016) reveals differences by Community Area in Swansea, from 45.9% in Llchwyr to 28.7% in Penderi.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- In the context of health inequalities, the Marmot Review ('Fair Society, Healthy Lives') noted that "To reduce the steepness of the social gradient in health, actions must be universal, but with a scale and intensity that is proportionate to the level of the disadvantage. We call this proportionate universalism."

### **Future prospects**

- Council priorities for early years have been enabled by the work of the Healthy City Board in promoting these issues through the early years strategy.
- Service Mapping to be undertaken during spring 2017 (as part of the First 1000 Days Programme led by Public Health Wales) will help future plans and priorities.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- Achievement of 95% herd immunity for all recommended immunisations – Healthy Child Wales programme.
- HV Universal Family assessment of resilience linked to services to support families identifying as requiring additional services.
- Reduced childhood illnesses preventable by immunisation, such as measles, meningitis and flu.
- Improved oral health.
- Children achieving their developmental milestones at the right age – for example via the Jacks campaign, WellComm roll out, outreach in schools, and expansion of Flying Start resources where possible.
- Reduction in exposure to adverse childhood experiences, again through the Jacks campaign, through Jig-so support for pregnant mothers and partners, and the high quality services provided across the Flying Start and Families First Programmes.
- More parents gaining skills and accreditation in play.

### **About the evidence**

- Information included from the Public Health Annual Report 2016, Strategic Needs Assessment 2015.

## A4: Children are ready for school

<b>Evidence:</b>	Data around the gap in developmental milestones by age 4 years
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>5</b> – This score reflects how ready Swansea children are coming into school, and the quality, reach and quantity of early years provision. Whilst overall activity is strong, helped by the Early Years Strategy, the aim remains to narrow the gap and inequalities in developmental milestones across the social spectrum.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 5</li> <li>Comments for this driver included more readiness for school activities in all areas, many children are entering school unprepared and class sizes in schools are getting too big (<i>'In some areas of deprivation children are entering school unprepared'</i>).</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- Recognition of early years focus as a priority.
- The further development and implementation of the Early Years Strategy will increase service provision and the consistency and quality of provision.
- Childcare and Play Sufficiency Assessments conducted with Action Plans robustly monitored and addressed with the aim of continual improvements, development and progression.
- Working with parents and children to develop the 'Best Start' campaign.
- Effective delivery of the Flying Start Programme and children's outcomes.
- Commitment to replicating the Flying Start Service beyond the target areas such as via the establishment of the Jig-so Project.
- Strong relationships with the private childcare sector.
- Early adopters - 3 year old Childcare 'pilot'.

### Changes over time

- There has not been a consistent assessment in place for many years and the new Foundation Phase Profile (FPP) introduced in 2015 will take time to be embedded.

### Comparisons with other places

- Information is currently limited as it was not collected nationally until 2015. The assessment in Wales is also different to England.

### Differences within Swansea

- Analysis of Child Development and Assessment Profile (CDAP) data for 2012/13, taken from a sample of schools at entry to the Foundation Phase, indicates that 71% of children assessed in WIMD quartile 1 areas (most disadvantaged) and 27% of children in WIMD quartile 4 areas (least disadvantaged) fell below their actual developmental ages.
- Initial data taken from the results for the first FPP Baseline Assessment run during autumn term 2015 are now available. The FPP is a new developmental assessment undertaken for each child across Wales during his/her first six weeks in Reception. As it is a new assessment, it will take some time before it settles down to become a reasonably robust assessment tool. In Swansea, 2,741 children were assessed by

outcome (1+, 2+, 3+) across four areas of learning (Language, Mathematical, Personal & Social, Physical) during their first six weeks in reception year (when most would have been aged 4).

- Outcome 2+ correlates closely with the age of most of the children at the time of assessment and therefore this is the outcome sought. Outcome 1+ is below the expected level of development and Outcome 3+ reflects those children above the expected level of development for a 4 year old. Overall across all four areas of learning, 64.2% of 4 year olds achieved the expected outcome 2+. In Language, 52.7% of the cohort were above outcome 2+, but slightly more attained this in Mathematical development (57.5%). Results were more encouraging for Physical and Personal & Social development (72.2% and 76.6%).
- Marmot research, drawing on data from England, shows how the attainment gap starts from an early age and persists or increases throughout the education stages.
- The figures suggest this effect follows the social gradient, with no obvious deprivation level cut-off, clearly illustrating the need for a 'proportional universalism' approach as recommended in the Marmot Review. Under proportional universalism, support should be provided proportional to need, so that individuals all the way along the social gradient are lifted up to the same level as those at the top.
- There were 122 Looked After Children (LAC) between the ages of 0 and 4 in 2015. This accounted for 23.7% of the overall LAC population.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Health and educational attainment are both strongly linked to deprivation and the impact can be seen across the social gradient in Swansea. The detrimental impact of deprivation begins at a very young age and builds up throughout a person's lifetime. Action proportional to need to support families and children during the very early years can help mitigate this effect and break these links.
- The concept of 'readiness for school' is strongly supported by the Welsh Government, Swansea's Healthy City Board and Swansea Public Services Board. It aims to ensure that all children start school from the same vantage point and encompasses a variety of different elements, including physical, mental and emotional development and communications and social skills. It is a general indicator for how well a child will be able to cope with starting nursery or school.
- Local data collected in 2012 indicated that 75% of children had not achieved the expected developmental milestone for their age at 3 years. The majority of these children were not accessing 'Flying Start'; out of the 883 children not reaching the expected milestone 453 of them were not living in a Flying Start area. The information collected shows that there is an average development gap of 10 months between children of a similar age depending on where they live.
- Working together across different organisations is difficult and complex, but making this happen in reality should be possible with concerted efforts from all the organisations involved.
- There is a high priority assigned to championing the vital role childcare plays in tackling poverty and inequality with significant awareness of the statutory duties outlined in the Childcare Act 2006 and the legal obligations required to support these. The nurturing of children and their holistic development and well-being is therefore valued and understood by the local authority and partners.

- Focusing on the role of the adult (Childcare Workforce) futuristic involvement & participation in terms of the SSTEW Scale in respect of childcare settings is considered a high priority building on ECERS-R and ECERS-E/ITERS-R focusing on the pedagogy within the setting, the adult's role in supporting learning and development, with a view that high quality interactions with and between children, including subscales relating to critical thinking, assessment for learning and supporting and extending language and communication is critically important.
- Play lays the foundation for literacy, is the basis for learning and nurtures holistic development starting from birth.

#### **Future prospects**

- Recognition of early years and the influence of adverse childhood experiences on later health and social problems would mean that the focus is back on the return on investment of evidence-based early years prevention and intervention.
- A commitment within the Health Board's Commissioning Programme and the local authority's Prevention Plan and Children & Young People Plan to Speech and Language development is positive with actions planned on a multi-agency basis.

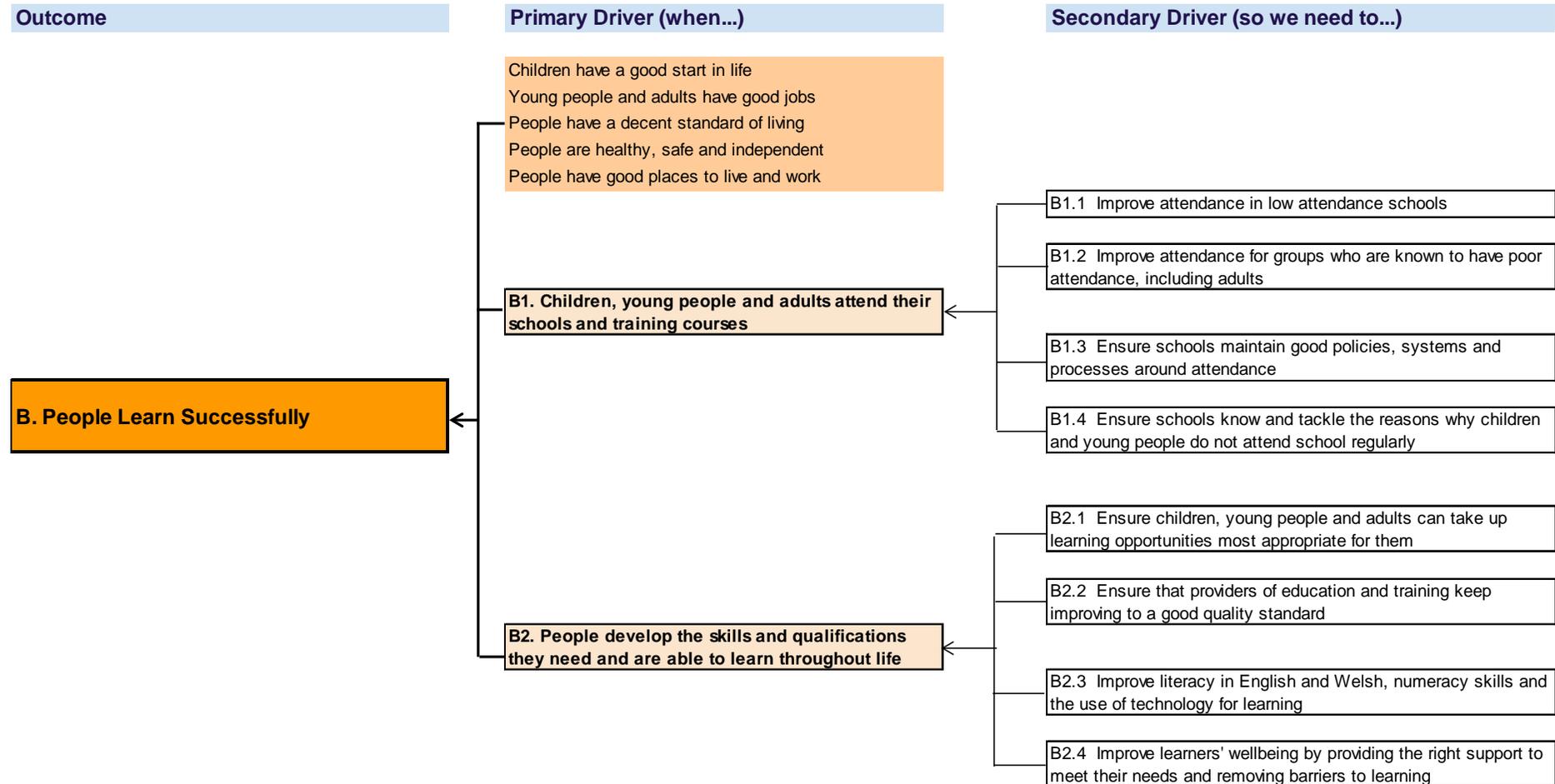
#### **What would improvement look like?**

- Narrowing of the gap in developmental milestone attainment, particularly speech and language.

#### **About the evidence**

- There is no reliable data in Wales below Foundation Phase 2 (age 7 years) on attainment. There is also no attainment data available nationally against WIMD although there are comparisons by Free School Meals (FSM) / non-FSM. As stated above data from the FPP will take time to embed and be sufficiently robust for analysis. Flying Start data from Schedule of Growing Skills (SOGS) at 2 years and 3 years suggests that speech and language shows greatest improvement; however this assessment will no longer be undertaken universally within the Programme and therefore will not be available for analysis beyond the current financial year.

## Outcome B: People Learn Successfully



## About this Outcome

Learning is critical for individual and community wellbeing. School age learning is of course our main focus but learning needs to be lifelong with generations supporting each other. Education helps to lift people out of poverty and protects those at risk of poverty and disadvantage. Skills increase employability and benefit the economy. Opportunities for lifelong learning and skills development need to be available in the workplace and in communities as well as in formal setting. Informal education and training also has an important role to play.

The driver diagram splits Outcome B into two key aspects of learning, relating to attendance (Primary Driver B1) and development of skills and qualifications (B2). However, all six population outcomes are interconnected and other factors (or drivers) can also impact on the outcome – ‘People learn successfully’.

In summary, both drivers are generally positive for Swansea currently; reflected in proposed well-being scores of 7 in each case, with school attendance and attainment (as measured by key stage 4) both above expected benchmarks and improving.

However, it is recognised that the draft assessment for driver B2 in particular is now written mainly from the perspective of formal statutory education and would benefit from the inclusion of additional sources of evidence and developed to incorporate the wider aspects of learning.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome B

### B1: Children, young people and adults attend their schools and training courses

<b>Evidence:</b>	Pupil level attendance statistics held on local authority and school systems
	Welsh Government statistical releases
	Detailed local analysis of attendance data
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>6</b> - Attendance in both primary and secondary schools has improved in recent years at a rate faster than that seen nationally in Wales. Swansea attendance is currently in the second quartile compared to the other 21 Welsh local authority areas, and can improve further once a minority of schools where attendance is still an issue show better performance.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 7. The average score given by the public was 6</li> <li>• Two main concerns were related to the range of provision available and the extent to which it is meeting people's needs and also the desire to raise the ambitions of young people, and therefore encourage them to attend school more regularly</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 7.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Secondary school attendance in 2015/16 academic year ranked 11th out of 22 Welsh areas. Expected benchmark position was 14th, so performance is above expectation.
- Primary school attendance in 2014/15 academic year ranked 11th out of 22 Welsh LAs. Expected benchmark position was 14th, so performance is above expectation (2015/16 data not published by WG yet).
- UWTSU is a large regional dual sector university with campuses from Swansea to Aberystwyth focused on meeting employers' skill needs, widening student access and delivering courses through the medium of Welsh. The UWTSU Group currently has 9,930 HE students and 3,650 full time and 7,000 part time FE students - 90% come from within 50 miles. The university is creating a new neighbourhood in the old docklands adjacent to Swansea city centre in partnership with industry.
- Swansea University has experienced a massive growth in student applications and enrolments, with total student full-time equivalents in 2015/16 of 14,878 compared with 10,735 five years ago. Swansea University's growth in home undergraduate applications between 2012 and 2016 is the 2nd largest in the UK.
- Gower College Swansea – formed in 2010 as the first of the new 'transformed' Further Education colleges – has 4,500 full time and 8,000 part time students studying on one of the College's six campuses across the City and County.

#### Changes over time

- Attendance in both phases has improved at a faster rate than that for all-Wales. In secondary schools, improvement since 2011/12 year has been from 92.0% to 94.3%. In primary schools, improvement since 2010/11 year has been from 92.9% to 94.9%.

- In the last two years, Looked After Children pupils have had better attendance than non- Looked After Children in Swansea, a complete reversal of the previous position.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Swansea ranks 11th out of 22 Welsh LAs; expected benchmark based on deprivation measures (free school meals) would be 14th.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Primary school attendance ranges from 92.9% to 96.2% in the 2015/16 academic year.
- Secondary school attendance ranges from 90.5% to 96.2% in the 2015/16 academic year.
- In general, lower attendance rates are seen in areas with higher deprivation.
- Further analysis of attendance by community area is being considered.
- Certain pupil groups have attendance levels which show cause for concern.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- In the last two years, attendance in Swansea schools has been good overall. Prior to this period, attendance in secondary schools was usually equivalent to the expected benchmark position each year, whilst primary school attendance was well below the benchmark.
- There is a strong correlation between school attendance and academic achievement; hence improvement in attendance is a priority area for improvement in Swansea.
- Improved attendance in secondary schools in Swansea correlates well with record results at key stage 4 in recent years.
- A 2015 scrutiny inquiry looking at education inclusion concluded that the well-being and educational achievement of children is best supported in mainstream schools rather than in specialist units.
- Feeling safe in school is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the ‘Big Conversation’ 2016/17.

### **Future prospects**

- School attendance can only be maintained at current or higher levels with tremendous effort from schools, parents and education welfare officers.
- As resources diminish in line with financial pressures it will become more difficult to sustain this effort.
- Better identification and targeting of pupils with attendance issues is desirable if attendance is to improve, but resource levels restrict schools’ ability to do this.
- Pupil groups where attendance is an issue need to be targeted for focussed interventions.
- Enhanced pupil level vulnerability assessment profiling will assist schools in identifying individuals for suitable interventions.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- Swansea would be in the top quartile of Welsh LAs for school attendance in both phases (5<sup>th</sup> or better).

- Swansea would have the best attendance of Welsh urban authorities (currently 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 4).

### About the evidence

- Pupil level attendance data is available over a period of many years for pupils of statutory school age in Swansea and Wales. This data is fully fit for purpose with a high degree of accuracy.
- Welsh Government publish annual statistics covering school attendance in both phases, and this is produced to National Statistics standards.
- Post-16 education is not statutory provision; therefore attendance is not routinely monitored for 6th form students.
- Further analysis of data and trends in participation in Further and Higher Education (FE/HE) and Lifelong Learning (LLL) would be helpful.

## B2: People develop the skills and qualifications they need and are able to learn throughout life

<b>Evidence:</b>	Pupil level examination statistics held on local authority and school systems.
	Welsh Government statistical releases.
	Detailed local analysis of examination data.
	Value-added information produced by Fischer Family Trust (FFT).
	Regional analysis produced by ERW ( <i>Education through Regional Working</i> ).
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>6</b> - Results for Swansea at key stage 4 in 2015 and again in 2016 are in the top quartile of Welsh local authority areas, and have continued to improve at a rate faster than that seen nationally. Value-added measures (which are used to show pupil progress) placed Swansea in top position in 2015 in Wales. Estyn have acknowledged that the secondary schools in Swansea are the best performing group of such schools in Wales. However recent analysis for post-16 education suggests that performance is more patchy at that level.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 7. The average score given by the public was 6</li> <li>• The main issues cited within this driver included the educational system not preparing students for work, more vocational courses are needed and students should be offered a wider variety of subjects</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 6.</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- Swansea results at key stage 4 in 2015 were 3<sup>rd</sup> best out of 22 Welsh local authorities based on the level 2 inclusive measure. 2016 results are above 2015 but all-Wales results are not available yet.
- In 2015, Swansea key stage 4 results were top in Wales in terms of value-added (pupil progress). All other key stage 4 measures were top quartile in Wales, and Swansea was also the top urban authority (out of 4) by a considerable margin.
- Core subjects (English, Welsh, mathematics and science) have particularly good results.

- Analysis of available data shows that whilst the overall levels of attainment of Looked After Children are significantly lower than for other pupils, their level of achievement (amount of progress they make between key stages) is often better.
- In 2015, no year 11 students left full-time education without at least one qualification.
- Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) after year 11 compare well to Wales and have reduced steadily.
- South West Wales Reaching Wider Partnership was established in 2003 to enable people in South West Wales to engage in Further and Higher Education. The Partnership offers a range of learning and aspiration raising activities, from short workshops to a three week residential Summer University, which are delivered to people living in Communities First areas and Looked After Children and Care Leavers. Within these groups the Partnership also aims to work with other under-represented groups in higher education and students studying through the medium of Welsh.
- Both universities have long standing relationships with employer organisations.
- In Swansea University, industry and business panels provide advice on the skills and attributes required in graduates and assist in keeping curricula current. Students increasingly take advantage of work placement opportunities. The University also delivers professional programmes through its partnerships with employers, to ensure their workforce needs are met, as well as delivering the right skills for the future workforce.
- UWTSD is developing work placements in all disciplines as an integral part of its academic offer to ensure its graduates have experienced the world of work.
- The Wales Institute of Work based Learning based at UWTSD offers professional practice frameworks, continuing professional learning and a wide range of workplace learning routes responding to employers' requirements for flexible provision.
- 92% of UWTSD's undergraduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduating.
- Gower College Swansea integrates numeracy, literacy, digital literacy and employability skills within all of its full time programmes.
- The overall Gower College Swansea success rate in the most recent year 2015/16 was 86% with the figure for the main qualifications being the third best in the sector.
- 78% of Swansea University students achieve 1st or 2(I) degrees (2015/16) and 81% enter graduate employment or further training within six months of graduating. The proportion of students in graduate level employment/further study consistently places Swansea in the top 20 across all league tables.
- Swansea University ranks 23rd in the UK for research excellence yet has a relatively high proportion of students who are from disadvantaged areas and backgrounds. It is one of the UK's leading universities for adding value to ensure the highest possible outcomes for all students regardless of either background or qualifications on entry.
- Swansea University provides Continuing Professional Development courses essential for retraining and updating the skills of those in work. This will be supported by the newly established Academy for Professional Development that supports Academic Colleges and Professional Services Departments to develop relevant, high-quality professional and personal development training courses (CPPD) for businesses and individuals external to the University.

### **Changes over time**

- Key stage 4 results have improved steadily over recent years in Swansea at a faster rate than all-Wales.
- Results in most subject areas have shown improvement over time.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Swansea key stage 4 results are well above Welsh and UK averages, and are above other Welsh urban authorities.
- All key stage 4 measures in 2015 placed Swansea in the top quartile of Welsh authorities. This should be compared to the expected benchmark position based on deprivation factors of 14th.
- Swansea key stage 4 results have improved at a faster rate than that seen in most Welsh LA areas.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Pupils from more deprived backgrounds attain results which are significantly below those from less deprived areas.
- Most of the 14 secondary schools show very good results both in terms of attainment and achievement, but some under-performance remains in a minority of schools and in some subject areas in certain schools.
- Non-white British pupils perform above their peers by the end of key stage 4, representing significantly positive value-added.
- Boys still have lower levels of attainment than girls at key stage 4, but the gap is steadily narrowing. This is most apparent in language subjects.
- Looked-after children do less well than other pupils at key stage 4; however many of them attain their personal targets.
- Post-16 results for Swansea students in school sixth forms show considerable variability between schools, with a broad range in results. Overall, results are below the average for Wales for 2016, although only about a third of students choose to continue their studies in sixth forms.
- Over half of the students in further education in Swansea attend Gower College Swansea. Advanced level results for the college rank amongst the best in Wales.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Swansea schools show excellent performance at key stage 4 overall, with Estyn acknowledging Swansea secondary schools as the best performing group of secondary schools in Wales.
- The public perception of Swansea secondary schools is good overall, with regular positive press regarding their performance and improved attendance.
- Support in transition to adulthood, particularly for vulnerable young people is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17. They would like to see a school environment that helps them to thrive, support for people who learn by doing, rather than writing or listening, more of a focus on rights, responsibility and 'scaffolded' opportunities, information about where to go if support is needed and support to speak out when help is needed.

- A curriculum for life is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the ‘Big Conversation’ 2016/17.

### **Future prospects**

- With performance already at such high levels, schools will do well to at least maintain current results given increasing budgetary pressures.
- Improved profiling and tracking of pupils aims to better identify individual needs and monitor interventions, and this helps schools plan for each pupil and allocate resources to needs.
- Challenge Advisers work with all schools to help them maintain and improve standards. Schools self-evaluate their performance each year and network with other schools to share best practice.

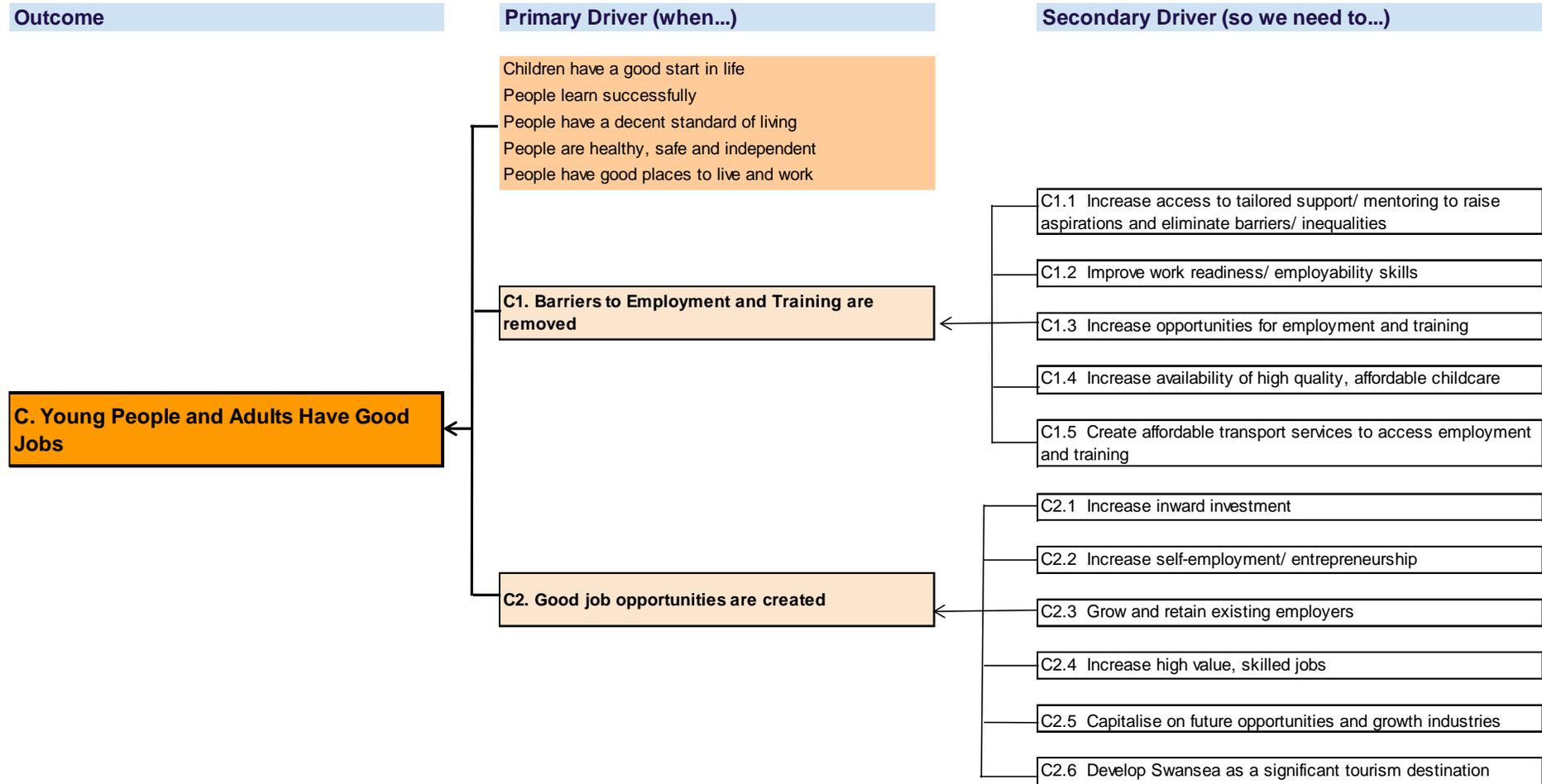
### **What would improvement look like?**

- With current performance already top quartile, and with increasing budgetary pressures, schools will do well to maintain current standards.
- The aim should be to at least maintain top quartile performance and to remain as the top Welsh urban authority.
- Looked After Children pupils would show levels of attainment and achievement comparable with other children.

### **About the evidence**

- Examination results data is obtained annually from school systems and is analysed locally for all schools. This data was originally imported to their systems from examination boards.
- Key stage 4 (KS4) is the main outcome measure of achievement in statutory education. Earlier key stage results are milestones along the way to KS4.
- There is little data at Welsh national level on performance of Looked After Children pupils; however Swansea data shows that their performance has improved measurably in recent years.
- Welsh Government produce analysis each autumn term for each school, and there are also regional analyses produced by ERW.
- Value-added analysis is produced by Fischer Family Trust (FFT).
- Care must be taken when comparing post-16 results across Wales, as the mix of school/college provision varies greatly between counties, and current performance measures used for schools differ from those used for colleges.

## Outcome C: Young People & Adults Have Good Jobs



## About this Outcome

In line with the Marmot Review, a good job is defined in terms of:

- degree of choice (autonomy);
- fair wage for the skills, knowledge and tasks required;
- working conditions that protect and promote well-being.

The driver diagram splits Outcome C into two elements – the ‘supply/ people side’ which considers the factors that are important for people to access good jobs (encapsulated in Primary Driver C1), and the ‘demand/ business side’ concentrating on the factors needed to create ‘good jobs’ (contained within Primary Driver C2). All six outcomes are interconnected and, as such, other factors that impact on Young People and Adults having good jobs (e.g. skills, infrastructure and health) feed in through the other outcomes and drivers.

In summary, the evidence around the two primary drivers for this outcome suggest a mixed picture overall, with some elements of the published data remaining relatively weak or at least not improving significantly over time. However, some aspects provide grounds for optimism; including the various employment support programmes provided by partners, the regional City Deal proposal and the recent and planned expansion of local universities.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome C

### C1: Barriers to Employment and Training Are Removed

<b>Evidence:</b>	Employment Rate
	Economic Activity (including by Community Area)
	Economic Activity by Qualifications
	Employment Support Allowance Rate
	Percentage of Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)
	LIFT Programme
	Making Ends Meet Report
	Wheels 2 Work Feasibility Study Report
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> – There are some good things happening in Swansea (e.g. a wide range of different provision available) and there has been a gradual increase in the employment rate. However, Swansea still has far too many working age people who are not in work and more work needs to be done to address the barriers to employment and training to generate a step change in this driver.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• Comments made within this driver included more referrals to initiatives to get people back in work, tackle the benefits culture in Swansea and more help with issues which are stopping people working such as transport, childcare and poor wages</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 4.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Tangible and on-going partnership working between the key organisations tackling worklessness in Swansea through the Economic Equity Delivery Team (EEDT) which includes representation from SCVS, JobCentre Plus, Careers Wales, the Council, Barnardos, Gwalia and Coastal Housing.
- Diverse range of person-centred employability projects to help individuals to overcome their barriers to employment (e.g. Communities for Work, Workways, LIFT, PACE, WCVA Active Inclusion projects) along with mainstream provision (e.g. JCP, Careers Wales). Work is being undertaken by EEDT to promote co-ordination and cross-referrals between the different providers in Swansea.
- Creation of an innovative new Wheels to Work scheme, which provides a moped hire scheme for workless individuals, to enable them to overcome transport barriers.
- On-going provision of the Beyond Bricks and Mortar initiative securing social benefits from procurement and regeneration activity in Swansea, including creating training and work experience placements.
- Via the introduction of the Keeping in Touch Strategy (2005), the Council and its partners have made good progress reducing the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) at 16-18 years by:
  - Identifying young people most at risk of NEET
  - Better brokerage and coordination of support
  - Stronger tracking and transitions of young people through the system
  - Ensuring provision meets the needs of young people

- Strengthening employability skills and opportunities for young people
- Greater accountability for better outcomes for young people
- Further progress has been made since Welsh Government published its Youth Engagement and Progression Framework Implementation Plan in 2013 to reinvigorate the approach to increasing engagement and progression in Wales.

### **Changes over time**

- Employment Rate: In line with the picture across Wales and UK, the employment rate fell in Swansea between 2008/09 and 2011/12 as the recession impacted on the labour market. The employment rate started to recover in 2012/13, and by 2015/16 stood at 70.3%, which was slightly above the pre-recession rate.
- Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Rate: The ESA rate for Swansea is falling but at 9% of working age population (13,780 individuals) it remains significantly higher than the GB rate of 6.2%.
- NEET: There has been a downward trend in the proportion of Year 11 school leavers who were NEET across Wales between 2008 and 2015. The Swansea data has been more volatile, but the NEET rate for Year 11 school leavers has fallen from 5.8% in 2008 to 2.7% in 2015.
- There has been a reduction in the percentage of young people NEET aged 16-18 against those aged 16-18 last year, however 63% of the current NEET group (184 young people) are either 'not available' or 'not ready' to enter employment or training. These are the core NEETs that require specialist support to be ready to enter employment or training.
- The percentage of young people NEET at 17 and 18 years is still significantly higher than at 16. This suggests that the sustainability of post 16 destinations is at least part of the problem, alongside the transition from compulsory schooling.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- 107,400 Swansea residents of working age were in employment in 2015/16. This equates to an employment rate of 70.3%, which is lower than the equivalent rates for Wales (71.1%) and the UK (73.6%).
- Since 2013/14 Swansea's employment rate has grown at a faster rate than the UK and, as a result, the employment rate in Swansea has increased from 92% of the UK average in 2013/14 to 95.5% in 2015/16.
- ESA data shows that there are significantly higher economic inactivity levels due to health issues in Swansea compared to the rest of the UK (9% of working age population on ESA in Swansea compared with 6.2% in UK). The biggest cause of this is mental health, with 49% of Swansea's ESA claimants having mental health issues.
- Swansea is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> (out of 22) in terms of Welsh Local Authorities with the lowest percentage of Year 11 school leavers who are NEET. The Swansea rate of 2.7% is in line with the Welsh rate of 2.8%.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Analysis by Community Area shows significant differences across Swansea. Employment rates varied from 44.9% in the City area to 62.3% in Llchwyr. As would be expected, there are far higher proportions of students (both economically

inactive and economically active) in the Bay and City areas which are in close proximity to the universities.

- The proportion of 16-74 year olds who were economically inactive due to long term sickness or disability was above the Swansea average in Penderi (10.5%), City (9.5%) and Cwmtawe (7.8%).
- Annual Population Survey data highlights that employment rates in Swansea are lower for females; specific age groups (e.g. 16-24 and 50-64); people with a core disability or work limiting disability; and ethnic minority groups.
- Census data highlights that qualifications/skill levels have an impact on employment rates, with individuals with lower level skills far less likely to be in employment than those with higher skill levels. As an example, a working age person in Swansea with a level 4 or above qualification in 2011 was nearly twice as likely to be in employment (79.7%) than someone with no qualifications (40.3%). Three quarters of those with apprenticeships were in employment.
- As expected, the ESA data shows that rates are higher in areas of known deprivation.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Qualitative evidence from the LIFT programme suggests that the main barriers to employment in Swansea are childcare, transport and a lack of skills and experience. This is backed up by the Making Ends Meet report (2012) which found childcare, transport and training for work (along with benefits advice) to be the main issues affecting worklessness in Swansea.
- Anecdotally, it is recognised that transport is the biggest barrier facing clients seeking work in Swansea, and that some local employment opportunities are difficult to access on public transport (e.g. Amazon).
- Consultation work undertaken with unemployed individuals and employment support providers across South West Wales as part of the Wheels to Work feasibility study identified lack of affordable and available transport options as a barrier to unemployed individuals finding work.
- With regard to NEETs, specific barriers to employment or training identified through the work of the Keeping in Touch Strategy include social and health factors (e.g. drugs and alcohol, mental health, behavioural and emotional, lack of parental support, confidence and motivation), skills-related factors (e.g. Additional Learning Needs, employability, work experience, training, qualifications) and wider structural factors (e.g. housing, transport, childcare, money for work related items).
- The ESA data highlights the significance of mental health issues as a barrier to employment (with 49% of ESA claimants having mental health conditions). Anecdotal evidence suggests that current services do not meet the volume of people who need support with mental health issues. There is also scope for more work to be undertaken with employers so that they become more supportive around mental health and well-being.

### **Future prospects**

- While the employment rate and ESA rate are both moving in the right directions, levels are still far below UK rates. The mainstream and grant funded employability support currently available in Swansea is helping to tackle the problem by providing the tailored support individuals need to move into employment, and on the basis

that this support continued to be available (and in the absence of any adverse economic conditions) we could reasonably expect to see a continued gradual increase in the employment rate (and a gradual decline in worklessness).

- However, a significant amount of the employability support in Swansea is funded through European Social Fund which now faces an uncertain future due to the UK's exit from the European Union. Similarly, any economic downturn resulting from the referendum could adversely affect the labour market and cause a contraction in employment opportunities. Both of these factors could have a negative impact on this driver.
- The current approach to those who are NEET is failing to impact positively on a core group of young people in Swansea. The challenge for partners is to not only sustain what has been achieved to date, but to develop an enhanced strategy that will impact positively on supporting the hardest to reach. Due to the barriers these young people face, the strategy must include more individualised tailored support and new provision to meet unmet needs in progressing into employment or training.

#### What would improvement look like?

- The indicators would show modest improvement both absolutely and in relation to the Welsh and UK averages.

#### About the evidence

- A number of data sets and other sources have been used to assess this driver, although not all can be disaggregated locally.
- There is consistency in the findings of the LIFT programme, Making Ends Meet report and JobCentre Plus analysis regarding the main barriers to work in Swansea. The Communities for Work and Workways+ project have only been operating in Swansea for a relatively short period of time, but over time as they engage with higher numbers of participants more primary evidence on barriers to employment will become available.
- The barriers to employment identified through the Keeping in Touch Strategy are in line with numerous pieces of research across Wales and the UK.

### C2: Good Job Opportunities are Created

<b>Evidence:</b>	Number of Active Business Enterprises
	Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked (relative to UK average)
	Median gross weekly earnings – workplace analysis
	Gender Pay Difference
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> – There is evidence that Swansea's productivity gap (GVA) is narrowing, but the gap is still significant and needs to be addressed to facilitate the creation of more 'good jobs'. There are also currently a relatively small number of businesses in Swansea generating economic activity compared with the UK average and workplace earnings are significantly lower by the same comparison. There are positive signs that our Universities' expansion plans and potential City Deal investment could generate further economic activity and

	good jobs, but more work will be required to address perceived recruitment problems.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• The main issue cited within this driver was the lack of job opportunities in Swansea</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 4.</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- Swansea is the regional economic driver for the Swansea Bay City Region, accounting for 39% of the city-region's output (GVA) and 39% of total employment.
- Over the long term Swansea's productivity gap with Wales has begun to close and is improving against the UK level.
- The Council works with regional partners through the Swansea Bay City Region Board, and adopted the Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy in 2013. The strategy aims to close the productivity gap to 90% by 2030 and in recent years this has increased to 83.1% of the UK average. Low productivity rates are the key factor underpinning Swansea (and the wider City-Region's) economic underperformance. Shifting the economy towards higher value, higher growth sectors and occupations will facilitate the creation of 'good jobs'.
- The recently agreed Swansea Bay City Deal will create world-class facilities in the fields of energy, smart manufacturing, innovation and life science with major investment in the region's digital infrastructure and workforce skills and talent underpinning this. Investment of £1.3bn will realise 9,500 jobs over 15 years across the region and generate a total £3.3bn uplift in GVA.
- The Swansea Economic Regeneration Partnership (SERP) shapes the local delivery of City-Region Economic Regeneration Priorities and includes representatives from the public, private, third and educational sectors.
- Swansea University and University of Wales Trinity St David are undertaking significant investments in Swansea which have the potential to create higher value added jobs and spin out businesses.
- The Council's Beyond Bricks & Mortar initiative works with local contractors to create work and training placements for local people.
- The Swansea Employability Academy (SEA) is linking potential employers to university students and creating networking opportunities.
- Swansea University has a particular focus on meeting skills shortages in sectors that depend on science, technology, mathematics, and medicine subjects and has grown provision in these key areas including the recent establishment of a new Chemistry Department.
- Gower College Swansea owns the majority of the shares of a training company which specialises in business improvement techniques and works with companies and other organisations in both Wales and England.

### Changes over time

- The number of active businesses in Swansea has increased by nearly 6% since 2004 although the number peaked in 2007 at 6,695. The number has increased for the last two years.

- Swansea's Gross Value Added per Hour Worked (GVApHW) has increased every year over the latest 10-year period.
- Swansea's average full-time weekly earnings (£471 in 2016) are below those of Wales (£498) and the UK (£539), and have been consistently lower over the last 5 years.
- The gap between female and male full time median hourly earnings in Swansea has been much narrower than across Wales and the UK.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Swansea is heavily dependent on public sector employment with one in three jobs within the public sector. This is far higher than the proportion across Wales (26.7%) and the UK (22.1%).
- Reflecting Swansea's role as the regional administrative, commercial and leisure centre, it has a higher proportion of employment in the hospitality, financial services and retail sectors than Wales and the UK.
- Swansea's current business stock rate (2015) of 437 remains below that of Wales (495) and – more significantly – the UK (648).
- Swansea's GVApHW has improved from 80% to 83.1% of the UK average over the period 2004-14.
- Swansea's 2016 earnings are 94% of the corresponding figure for Wales and 87% of that for the UK.
- The gender pay gap in the UK based on median earnings for full-time employees shows that male pay (hourly, excluding overtime) was 9.4% above that of females in 2015, compared with 9.6% in 2014. This is the smallest gap since the survey began in 1997, although it has changed relatively little in recent years. The position is similar across Wales, where the gender pay gap was down to 7.8% from 8.4% the previous year. However, the picture in Swansea is quite different, where currently (2015) median full-time female pay is above that of males, although local data is subject to greater sampling variation.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Data for areas below local authority level is not available for this driver.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The Wales Business Barometer (published by Chamber of Commerce) for the second quarter of 2016 indicates that 61.6% of Welsh businesses report recruitment difficulties, generally in line with recent quarters.
- Feedback reveals that the main reasons for businesses not being able to recruit are:
  - skills (both basic skills and a lack of qualified people to do specific jobs)
  - people not willing to work for the salary that the employer can afford to pay
  - people not wanting to live in the area where the business is or have difficulty travelling to work.

### **Future prospects**

- Without continued positive investment in the economy, Swansea's economic performance will continue to lag behind the UK's performance and people's prosperity will not improve.
- The Swansea Bay City Region City Deal proposal has the potential to realise our investment plans and accelerate economic growth.
- Expansion plans of Swansea University and University of Wales Trinity St David will increase learning and research & development capacity, generating higher-level skills and greater collaboration with industry, potentially leading to the creation of higher value jobs and spin out businesses.

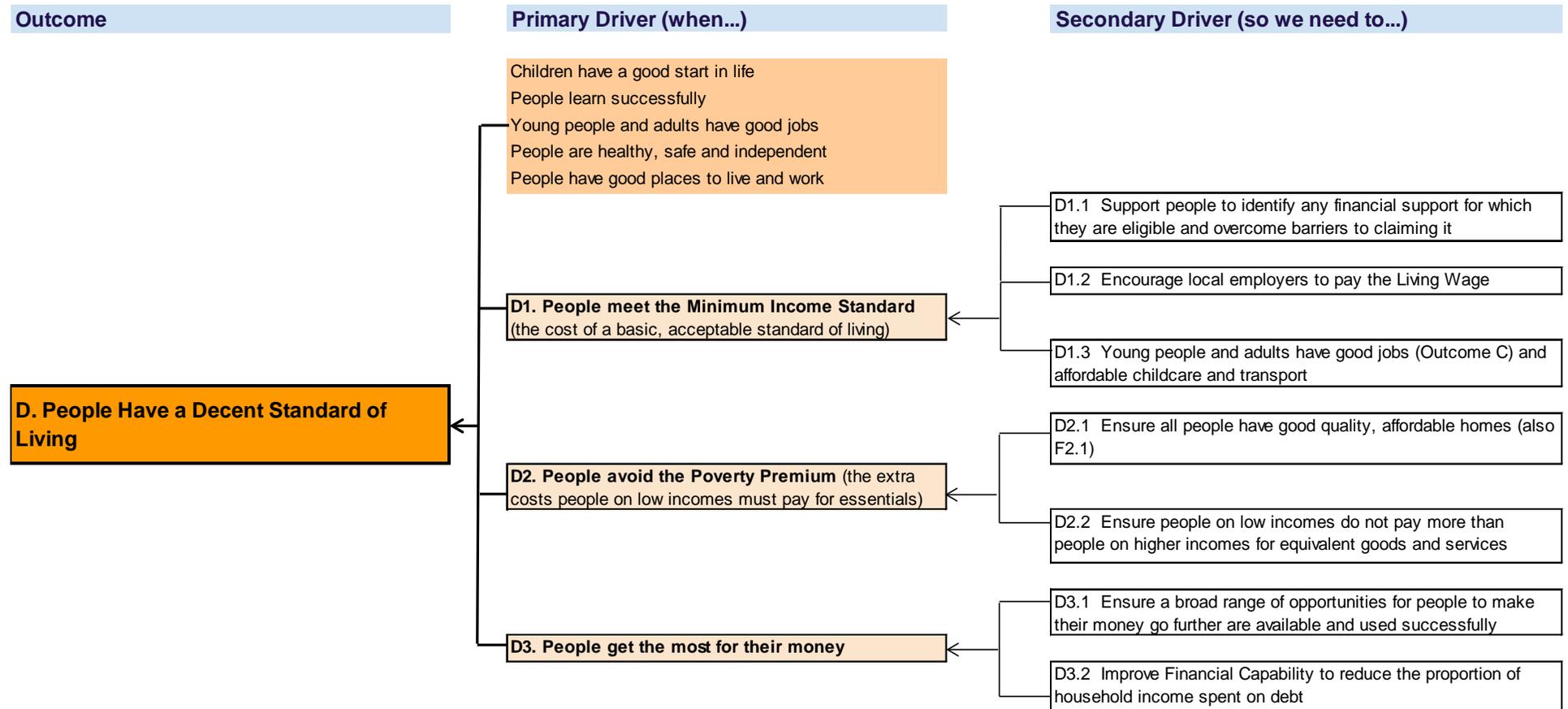
### **What would improvement look like?**

- An increase in the number of active enterprises and their survival rates.
- An increase in the availability of higher value jobs.
- Continued improvement in the GVApHW so the gap between Swansea and the UK average is reduced.
- Improved matching of people to jobs. Employers would experience fewer recruitment difficulties.

### **About the evidence**

- There is a time delay of approximately 12 months in the publication of GVA data.
- Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings has been subject to changes in methodology and sampling size variations since 1997 but the estimates for the period 2011 to 2016 are consistent.
- There have been a number of methodological changes made to gender pay gap estimates since first compiled in 1997 hence only figures from 2011 can be compared for analysis.
- The Chamber of Commerce surveys are not presently analysed at a Swansea level.
- Data is not available below a Swansea level for any of the data sets.

## Outcome D: People Have a Decent Standard of Living



## About this Outcome

The recent report of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee's Inquiry into Poverty in Wales (June 2015) recommended that the Welsh Government "should adopt a clear definition of poverty based on needs and resources," and that "the definition should also reference the 'Minimum Income Standard', which is based on what the public considers to be enough money to live on in order to maintain a socially acceptable quality of life".

In the absence of a clear definition of 'decent standard of living', it is considered that the Minimum Income Standard (MIS) should be our first primary driver towards this outcome (D1). The next primary driver (D2) acknowledges some of the social and structural injustices which perpetuate poverty, and the third (D3) acknowledges the vital difference which support to make good spending choices can make to all households, particularly those on low incomes.

For all three drivers, the proposed well-being score is below average. D1 recognises that most people in Swansea are not in income poverty, but well-being is low for those that are. Drivers D2 and D3 also highlight financial inequality in Swansea and the disadvantage experienced by certain groups of people – who are at increased risk of adversity as a result.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome D

### D1: People meet the Minimum Income Standard (the cost of a basic, acceptable standard of living)

<b>Evidence:</b>	Proportion of jobs paid below Living Wage
	Proportion of households in low income
	GDHI (Gross Disposable Household Income)
	Benefit Sanctions
	Welfare Rights Advice data and observations
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> – Most people in Swansea are not in income poverty; but for those who are in poverty, well-being is low and this adds to the poverty trap. More could be done locally to improve well-being for people on low incomes.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 3. The average score given by the public was 3</li> <li>• The main issue cited within this driver was that there are too many poor job prospects and too many poorly paid jobs in Swansea.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- The majority of people in Swansea are not living in income poverty. However, more engagement is required with those who are, and ideally those who have been and are not any longer, in order to ascertain what they believe Swansea's strengths are in this area.
- Swansea benefits from some excellent Welfare Rights provision, helping resolve complex cases, challenge unfair decisions and support income maximisation through training and direct support to case workers. Local agencies offering support and advice with benefits have an excellent reputation and are trusted in the community. Age Cymru, the council's Welfare Rights team and some other local organisations (e.g. Gofal) offer limited representation at tribunals. Citizens Advice assists with a range of income maximisation activities short of appeal representation. Housing Associations are highly committed to maximising the incomes of their tenants as this reduces the likelihood of evictions as well as improving quality of life. Their business models include ratios of workers providing advice and support per numbers of tenants which can offer useful benchmarks for other service providers. The Council's rents team is currently only resourced to offer one Financial Inclusion Officer.
- A more co-productive approach is beginning to be seen in the relationship between service providers and service users. Local Area Co-ordination is expanding in Swansea and offering insights into how people's natural resilience and desire to pursue improvements in their lives can be built upon, but needs to be approached and fostered in the right way. Lessons from the past are being acknowledged about how expecting people with low personal resources (including confidence and knowledge) to take daunting tasks on by themselves is not, after all, "empowering".
- Further engagement work and investigations would be required to ascertain what other strengths in the population/environment support this driver. Examples might include: positive attitudes to income equality and the claiming of legal entitlements; awareness and understanding of the impacts (social and financial) of income

inequality and/or of the failure to maximise income locally; and positive attitudes towards benefit claiming amongst the population and relevant professionals, to support a culture of income maximisation.

- An excellent working partnership exists between numerous organisations in the Financial Inclusion Steering Group (FISG), who work towards shared goals and share information and good practice. All local social housing providers are represented along with advice and support organisations from the third sector and various Council teams. All local authorities are mandated by the DWP to offer a plan for “Universal Support Delivered Locally” – how the most vulnerable and financially excluded residents will be supported with the change to Universal Credit, which will see a reduced amount of benefits paid in a single monthly lump into a bank account via an online claims process, one month in arrears and with no payment for the first week of any claim. FISG can pool information and resources to address some concerns under this plan.
- Co-productive approaches to welfare rights support, aiming to increase knowledge and understanding rather than simply deliver a service, are in evidence in the Council’s Welfare Rights work and Communities First Benefits advice. Similarly Citizens Advice holds successful “one to many” training sessions on Personal Independence Payments (PIP) where 6-8 people attend, perhaps with a carer or support worker, and receive training in the PIP claim process, enabling them to proceed more independently than in the past. Through these processes, claimants and advisors build their capacity to approach claims with more confidence, developing skills which can be shared at the community level and reducing the need for external support.

### **Changes over time**

- Data on household income levels is notoriously difficult to gather; the numbers and proportions of households claiming benefits do not tell us whether household income has risen or fallen. Changes in the benefits system over time mean it is not accurate to compare numbers between years. The numbers of poverty-pay jobs (that is, jobs paid below the real living wage) in Swansea are increasing, although data on the numbers of benefit sanctions show improvement.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- There are more poverty-pay jobs in Swansea (as a proportion of total jobs) than the national averages. The figure is 27.6% in Swansea East (Wales 25.6%; UK 22.7%).

### **Differences within Swansea**

- There is great income inequality in Swansea with rates of income deprivation varying enormously. Some people are very wealthy and some are very deprived.
- Income rates vary greatly, particularly between our most and least deprived neighbourhoods (there is broadly, but not entirely, an east/west divide). The neighbourhoods designated “Target Areas” suffer significantly higher proportions of households on low income than other neighbourhoods. Further analysis may suggest that the City and Penderi community areas within Swansea have lower average incomes.

- National (Wales and UK) research tells us that lone parents, people with disabilities and people from ethnic minority groups are at greater risk of financial poverty than other groups; we do not have local evidence on this for Swansea specifically.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The benefits system is increasingly complex, difficult to navigate and inadequate. The Council's Welfare Rights (WR) service and partners in Citizens Advice, Age Cymru and social housing providers report the following:
  - WR Advice line sessions are highly over-subscribed, with more complex queries being brought and queries not all able to be dealt with during the session.
  - Appeals representation is insufficient; more people require help than can be accommodated.
  - Changes from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to PIP/ESA (Employment Support Allowance) are creating insurmountable workloads. Reviews are frequent and decision-making is poor. People claiming are often unclear how the criteria and assessments operate.
  - Poor decision-making is a costly, damaging and ongoing problem: nationally, 65% of PIP decisions alone are overturned on appeal. In Swansea, the Council's Welfare Rights service has a success rate of 91% at appeal (total for all benefits).
  - Council WR Advisors have identified 25 local people with severe disabilities who may be receiving less than their full entitlement. Very few have responded to a direct offer (in writing) for support to examine and correct this. Further inquiry is needed to ascertain people's barriers to accessing this support in realising their full entitlements.
  - Under-25s on Universal Credit are in a particularly difficult financial situation. People with very minimal budgets are unable to make ends meet.
  - As claimants are already well below the poverty line, a sanction creates a desperate situation. The numbers of people being sanctioned and numbers of sanctions issued are both falling, but the aim needs to be for zero. The mismatch between these figures tells us that some people are having multiple sanctions.
  - Case studies from a range of organisations show where welfare reform has reduced income and the consequent implications and need for debt advice.
- Confusion abounds regarding minimum/living wage levels. The "National Living Wage" is in fact a minimum wage for over-25s; under-25s have lower minimum wage rates; none of these is enough for a single person to live on, falling far below the living wage required for Minimum Income Standard. There appears to be no strategy or plan to "encourage employers to pay the Living Wage" (Driver d.1.2).
- Resource is insufficient: currently only the Council and Age Cymru can undertake appeal representation and Citizens Advice faces excessive demand compared to resources.
- People with particular life challenges, such as adults with learning disabilities and women experiencing domestic abuse, face particular barriers to accessing their entitlements and developing/exercising financial capability.
- With the welfare reform agenda there is still apprehension to claiming benefits from some people despite problems in making ends meet and protracted health problems impacting on economic activity.

- Speeding up counselling and other treatments for mental health and physical issues which impact on a person's economic activity and ability to work would ensure greater focus on getting people back to work.
- A 2017 scrutiny inquiry looking at the Council's Tackling Poverty strategy heard from people experiencing poverty that their well-being was often dependent on the support services they received. Although some mentioned how their friends and family are a help, many had very specific or specialist barriers that their close friends and family may simply be unable to help with. They also highlighted a need for more information/awareness on the support services available to them. The inquiry also heard that money and lack of funds are a concern for most people experiencing poverty; however problems can be caused by a variety of factors.

### **Future prospects**

- Expected future trends will see: further cuts to services that could support people to improve their finances; increased debt and destitution as people struggle with welfare reform; poverty levels of pay continuing to be a problem; attitudes towards benefit claimants continuing stigma which adds to cycles of deprivation.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- A concerted effort to raise awareness of the Living Wage in Swansea together with a drive to encourage full uptake of benefit entitlements. Evidence would be: greater awareness of the living Wage; increased proportion of jobs paying the Living Wage; and reported confidence in the community about understanding and taking up entitlements and a reduction in cases of under-claiming being seen by advisors. These improvements would begin to shift attitudes towards a) the problem of working poverty and b) benefit claiming and those who do it; fostering a local culture which is more sympathetic to the barriers people face to having a decent standard of living and is positive about the wider social and economic benefits of everyone maximising their incomes.

### **About the evidence**

- Only proxy indicators of household income are readily available, but those we have are accurate within the limitations of what they can tell us. Anecdotal evidence and perspectives from those working in close contact with the people working through difficulties associated with benefit claims, low-paid employment and job-searching are important barometers of social attitudes and awareness.
- With the goal of ensuring all households meet the Minimum Income Standard, a measure enabling us to benchmark this and measure progress would be very welcome, but there isn't one. Welsh Government could be lobbied to invest in the appropriate research. The Centre for Research in Social Policy (which calculates the MIS) suggests that a local "Family Resources Survey" to be repeated every 5 years or so would be ideal, but costly.
- The proportion of jobs paying the living wage is a very narrow statistic which does not allow for any recording of progress in raising awareness of and changing attitudes towards the living wage. Any work agreed to take this driver forward may need additional indicators and measures to monitor effectiveness.

- Benefit under-claiming is notoriously difficult to ascertain, but DWP does estimate claim rates on a UK basis. Nationally, JSA and Pension Credit are very highly under-claimed. Since benefit data is readily available at smaller geographies, it may be possible to estimate claim rates for Swansea. These could be useful to indicate the areas where capacity building would be the most beneficial and inform the focus of benefit take-up campaigns.
- Although the hard data we work with for this driver is not always completely clear and definite, conclusions about well-being are confident as they are based on the perspectives of people working and living with the relevant issues.

## D2: People avoid the Poverty Premium (the extra costs people on low incomes must pay for essentials)

<b>Evidence:</b>	Likelihood of Digital Exclusion
	Personal debt and insolvency
	Various community engagement
	<i>Seeking: Fuel poverty rate and other relevant data (e.g. % of people locally who switch fuel providers)</i>
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>3</b> – In Swansea, households in poverty are very much subject to the Poverty Premium and there is not a coherent strategy for either addressing this or mitigating its impacts. However, small pockets of work trying to reduce amounts spent on fuel and credit are happening.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 3. The average score given by the public was 3.</li> <li>• The main issue cited within this driver centred around people on low incomes paying higher rates for certain goods and services.</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- Swansea has a number of organisations with an interest in supporting local residents with these issues. A clear plan for collaboration at a local level would be likely to have a lot of support.
- In common with the rest of the UK, younger people tend to be well connected digitally. This is a strength which could be built on, with potential for inter-generational work. There are more opportunities for people without a PC at home to get online, and services are increasingly being delivered digitally which encourages people to become more familiar with online processes. Some work on reducing fuel poverty has been well received in the past. The Credit Union is popular amongst the small number of residents who make use of it. In terms of other aspects of the poverty premium (e.g. transport, food, insurance), more research and engagement work is necessary to ascertain the relevant strengths in the community.
- The Financial Inclusion Steering Group (FISG) attempts to address debt in a context of diminishing resources. The Money Advice Service continues to fund face-to-face debt advice which is locally delivered by Citizens Advice Swansea Neath Port Talbot. Fuel poverty may now, as in the past, be considered of sufficient concern to convene a separate group. Similarly, digital inclusion has recently been identified as warranting a co-ordinated approach. 'Get Swansea Online' has been operating for

some time but can only report on those who have accessed it, not those who have not. Further engagement work is needed to ascertain the level of unmet need here.

- After some attempts to establish a central “one stop shop” for help with benefits, debt, housing, training and other barriers to employment, the FISG is now supporting its newest partner, Remploy, to develop such a “Hub”.
- The Credit Union is launching a new brand “My Community Bank Wales” offering, as ever, secure savings and lower-cost loans; but engagement work suggests its profile remains low amongst its target audience.
- There are regular Pension Wise surgeries throughout Swansea delivered by Citizens Advice Powys.

### **Changes over time**

- Some pernicious aspects of the poverty premium, such as transport, food and credit, remain very high in Swansea. While the insolvency rate shows marked improvement over the last two years (due in part to people needing to have more debt to be declared bankrupt), the view from the ground is that active debt, particularly priority debt, has increased. Innovative projects to help people overcome high transport costs and the unavailability of good quality, affordable food in neighbourhoods are lacking.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Insolvency rates in Swansea are generally on a par with Wales as a whole. Further information is required about how the costs of transport, food, credit, insurance and other aspects of the Poverty Premium in Swansea compare with other areas.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- A common feature of the Poverty Premium is that our most deprived neighbourhoods experience the following:
  - ATMs charging up to £1.99 for a withdrawal
  - Higher insurance premiums reflecting the increased risks
  - A prevalence of pre-payment meters for fuel
  - Small shops offering poor quality produce at high prices
  - Doorstep lenders and catalogues being favoured forms of credit.

Obviously this compares unfavourably with less deprived neighbourhoods but will be typical of deprived neighbourhoods around the UK.

- Industry concerns have been raised about personal insolvencies being higher among young women than men. This is thought to be due to: the enduring gender pay gap; the fact that more young women than men leave home, and housing costs are so high; the aggressive marketing of costly products to women, who are under more societal pressure to keep up with fashions, buy beauty treatments and spend on products not targeted at men.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The 2012 local study Making Ends Meet found that 57% of Townhill and Penlan parents surveyed had doorstep loans. In this and more recent surveys, buses are seen as prohibitively expensive, and people in particularly challenging situations, such as people with learning disabilities and women experiencing domestic abuse,

are reported by workers to be particularly susceptible to poverty premiums and less able to access opportunities to mitigate them, as well as being less able to access full income entitlements (D1).

### Future prospects

- If the current situation continues, our most income-challenged households will continue to pay more for certain goods and services than people who are better off. However, there are clear opportunities for intervention to protect people from the poverty premium, e.g. targeted work on fuel poverty, increasing access to affordable credit and innovative solutions to transport and food issues.
- Bus fares have fluctuated a little but generally the trend has been upward in line with other rising costs. These trends are set to worsen the poverty premium in real terms, unless concerted efforts are made in mitigation.

### What would improvement look like?

- A more concerted and cohesive effort to learn from innovation in Swansea and elsewhere would support improvement. Innovations could include: working with the private rented sector and social landlords to see a reduction in the number of prepayment meters; an increase in people moving their debt from catalogues and doorstep lenders to the credit union; and imaginative schemes for neighbours to share transport or bulk-buy lower cost food.

### About the evidence

- Fuel poverty is particularly difficult to measure using the official definition. A household may spend less than 10% of its income on fuel, and be unhealthily cold as a result. A household feeling the benefits of improved energy efficiency in the home and reduced fuel bills as a result will often opt to have the heating on more, thus not having more wealth in their pocket, but enjoying more comfort and a healthier home. Qualitative engagement work is required to ascertain local patterns in fuel use in relation to well-being.
- Actual levels of personal debt remain a significant data development challenge.
- Further engagement work is necessary to identify those elements of the Poverty Premium which the Public Services Board has the most potential to influence.

## D3: People get the most for their money

<b>Evidence:</b>	Food bank use
	<i>Seeking: evidence of increasing financial capability; uptake of 'Nest' and other energy efficiency schemes; uptake of basic bank accounts; Food co-op use; Citizens Advice figures re debt levels; % of people switching fuel provider)</i>
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>3</b> – In Swansea, people only get the most for their money if they are already quite well-resourced with knowledge and information, well connected digitally and able to get around easily to take advantage of deals. The people least likely to be in this situation are those already suffering the impacts of poverty, and more could be done to join up activities and ideas to bring more improvements to the community.

<p><b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 3. The average score given by the public was 3</li> <li>• The main issue cited within this driver was that information, training and advice is essential to enable people to make the most of their money (<i>'More information for people in a format they can understand'</i>).</li> </ul>
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### Swansea's strengths

- This driver offers the opportunity to maximise a creative, innovative approach to enabling people to problem-solve and cost-cut through collective purchasing or other types of community collaboration. Sharing knowledge and information is key to supporting people to take advantage of opportunities to reduce living costs.
- Some of our communities are known for being very creative, collaborative and resilient. Further evidence is required from relevant stakeholders about how these strengths have manifested in the past and could be further developed.
- The Financial Inclusion Steering Group has historically tried to ensure that information about switching fuel providers and reducing fuel bills reaches the communities where it will have the most impact. In the past a collective fuel switching project operated (Cyd Cymru) which enabled local people to cut fuel costs. Some schemes within Communities First areas to increase financial capability have worked well as have schemes to help people change behaviours and reduce fuel costs (e.g. Change to Save).
- Clothes-swaps are becoming popular in the City, often hosted by the Environment Centre which also hosts up-cycling workshops, sewing classes and so on. The cost of these can be prohibitive, however.
- Citizens Advice deliver debt advice, some training to frontline workers and energy awareness events to help people manage bills better.

### Changes over time

- At this point the only trend information we have is foodbank use, which indicates a worsening situation. Benefit reductions (via welfare reform), the high cost of living combined with high levels of debt often leave people needing help to afford to eat. This indicates that people are not being supported to make the most of their money. However Citizens Advice are seeing less people with sanctions than a year ago.
- More people are attending Citizens Advice with protracted priority debts (e.g. council tax, rent) resulting from inability to manage on low or fluctuating incomes.
- The Benefit Cap will impact on many people with three or more children.

### Comparisons with other places

- Other foodbank data is being sought for comparison but anecdotally foodbank use has increased everywhere. Examples of good practice from elsewhere are also being sought with regard to this well-being indicator.

### Differences within Swansea

- This driver has significant overlaps with D2, regarding the Poverty Premium. People could be supported to reduce aspects of their poverty premium via making their money go further, e.g. switching to cheaper credit, fuel or food providers. Therefore we see that people in more affluent households have opportunities to make the

most of their money by: being digitally included, knowledgeable, confident and willing to access online deals and discounts; having cheaper transport such as economical cars (which run at a much lower cost per mile than buses or good quality bicycles); having access to a greater range of shops with a higher number of discounts and special offers; having more affordable credit; having free ATM use, etc. – which generally less affluent households don't have. Across Swansea as a whole, such opportunities to get the most of money are highly individual and not well organised at a community level. The power of organising, purchasing and distributing collectively is not maximised.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Citizens Advice has seen a massive increase in the proportion of people with benefit related problems with a decline in take up of debt advice. With the new Benefit Cap introduced in 2016, this trend and the withdrawal of DLA from people not eligible for PIP will lead to more people facing problems financially.
- The highest areas for debt advice help is in respect of Bankruptcy and Debt Relief Orders which represents evidence that debt problems are becoming insurmountable.

### **Future prospects**

- As stated above, overlaps exist between this driver and D2, thus the future trends and prospects are similar. If nothing different happens, costs will continue to rise and those already most disadvantaged by the combination of low income and high cost will face increasing challenges in making ends meet and become increasingly desperate. Food bank use and other evidence of this desperation will rise.

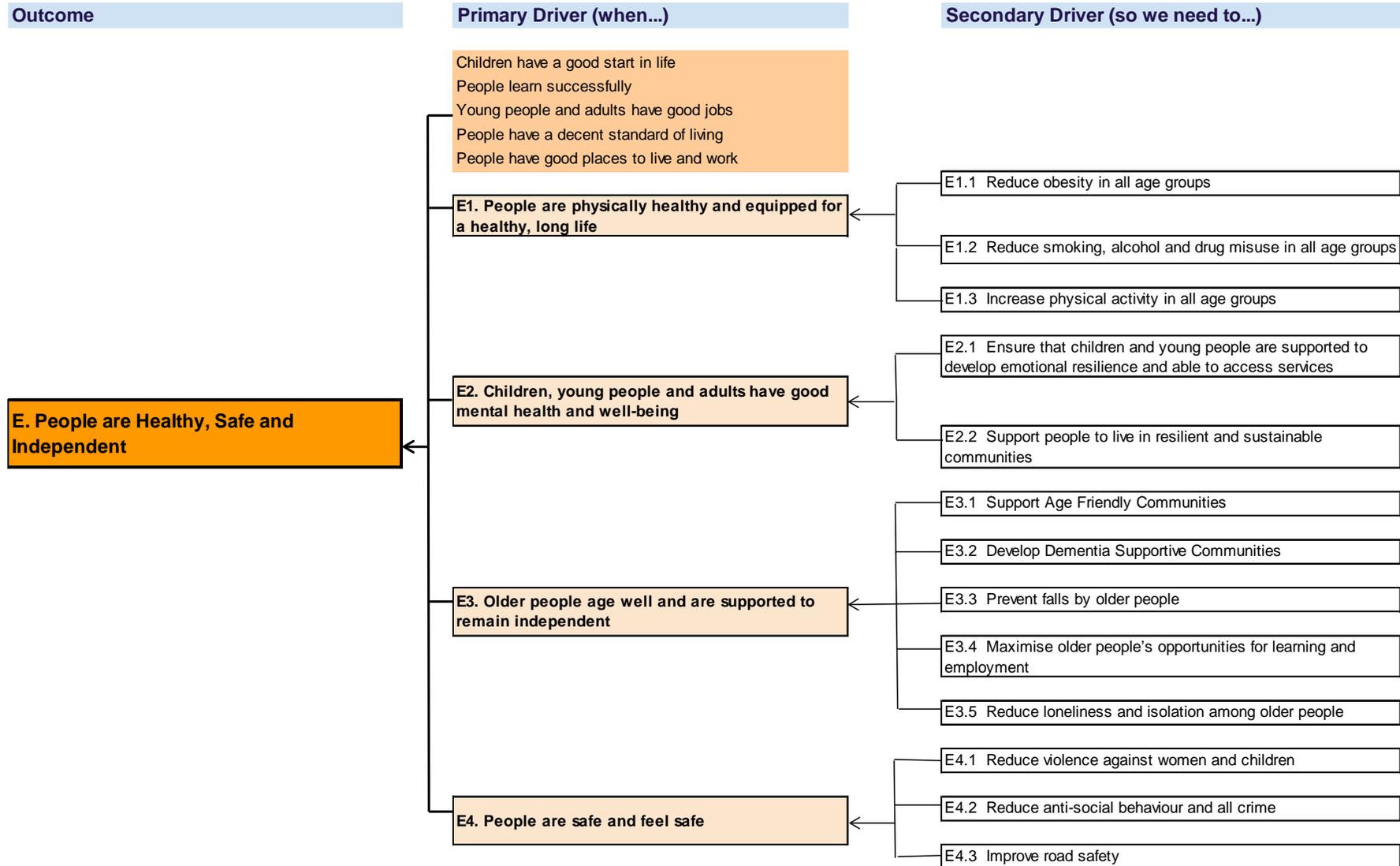
### **What would improvement look like?**

- Again, a more concerted and cohesive effort to learn from innovation in Swansea and elsewhere would support improvement. We would want to see evidence of people talking confidently about where to find out about money-saving opportunities and about activities or projects they're aware of that can help, and we would like to see food bank use go down. Earlier take-up of debt advice would also be a positive change.

### **About the evidence**

- This is a fairly open and qualitative driver at this point, but if work were developed this would provide a body of better evidence to draw on. Some suggestions for evidence which could be referred to here, e.g. Nest take-up, are bound to disappointingly fail to place take-up in the context of need – i.e. we have no idea how many people who should access Nest, don't.
- A clear action plan agreed by a number of local partners summarising activities to help people reduce costs for food, fuel, transport, clothing, or anything else that has the potential to be accessed at a lower cost than currently could serve as evidence and indicate a pool of participants to engage for feedback on its success. The lack of such a plan is itself a lack of evidence. Consequently our conclusions are tentative but are likely to remain so until further developments in this area are seen.

## Outcome E: People are Healthy Safe and Independent



## About this Outcome

The importance of investing in the early years is key to preventing ill health later in life, as is investing in healthy schools and healthy employment, as well as more traditional forms of ill-health prevention, such as drug treatment and smoking cessation programmes. The health and wellbeing of people is heavily influenced by their local community and social networks. Those in deprived areas are more likely to experience crime and its negative effects on health and wellbeing. Further work is needed to assess how barriers to accessing health services can impact on the community, e.g. in rural communities and in areas of deprivation. Community networks and greater social capital, however, can provide a source of resilience. The extent to which people can participate and have control over their lives makes a critical contribution to psychosocial wellbeing and to health.

The driver diagram splits Outcome E into four key aspects of health, safety and independence, relating to physical health (Primary Driver E1), mental health and well-being (E2), support for older people (E3) and community safety (E4). However, all six population outcomes are interconnected and other factors (or drivers) can also impact on the outcome – ‘People are healthy, safe and independent’.

This overarching population outcome contains a large, diverse range of issues, and progress in these areas is often linked to a number of wider factors, including those around education (including behaviours) and the local environment, for example. In overall terms the proposed well-being scores generally sit within the middle, with positive aspects partly offset by the progress and work that is still necessary. There also remain some gaps in our knowledge and requirements for further, local analysis in some subject areas.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome E

### E1: People are physically healthy and equipped for a healthy, long life

<b>Evidence:</b>	Obesity in all age groups
	Smoking and drug misuse in all age groups
	Physical activity in all age groups
	Western Bay Population Assessment 2017
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> – These issues are challenging as this is not just about providing services but also trying to change behaviour. So there will be a need for other services such as early years or those addressing environmental issues to influence the outcomes and support the changes aspired to.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 4. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• Comments made for this driver included better signposting to free activities, more support, information and advice particularly for parents and drug abuse is a big problem within Swansea (<i>'We have more gyms, spas and leisure centres than ever before, but these can be expensive'</i>).</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Swansea is one of 28 cities in the UK that have achieved Healthy City status designated by The World Health Organisation. The Healthy City network is a global movement consisting of cities that are committed to health and sustainable development. Local partners work together on different aspects of the core aims and themes and add their own expertise to the projects that are carried out. The Healthy Cities Board has developed a strategy 'Creating an Active and Healthy Swansea Plan' which has three strands:
  - Sport and physical activities
  - Access to facilities and opportunities
  - Community approaches to health and wellbeing.
- Reducing obesity and smoking is a focus of considerable activity and as such has been included within each of the Health Board's five Cluster Network Action Plans. They include actions such as increasing referrals to the National Exercise Referral scheme and for those at risk of diabetes referral by the practice into the Weightwatchers weight loss scheme; and referral into the National Stop Smoking Campaign.
- Swansea has every school signed up to the Healthy School Programme. The school takes responsibility for maintaining and promoting the health of all who 'learn, work, play and live' within it not only by formally teaching pupils about how to lead healthy lives but by enabling pupils and staff to take control over aspects of the school environment which influence their health. It actively promotes, protects and embeds the physical, mental and social health and well-being of its community through positive action.
- The Western Bay Area Planning Board and ABMU Local Mental Health Partnership Board have developed a joint delivery plan which provides for a service framework for the treatment of people with a co-occurring mental health and substance misuse

problems and will lead to the delivery of integrated clinical practice in mental health and substance misuse services for adults, children and young people.

- Swansea has formulated a Health of Homeless and Vulnerable groups (HHAUGAP) steering group. A multi-agency group to deliver a coordinated approach to providing services relating to people who are homeless, asylum seekers, gypsy travellers, EU migrants and substance mis-users.
- The enforcement of a smoking ban within HM Prison Swansea means that the men are supported once they are in Prison to stop smoking and plans are in place to ensure they receive support once they are released into the community.

### **Changes over time**

- Life expectancy at birth for both males and females in Swansea has continued to increase over the last decade – consistent with the Welsh average. Healthy life expectancy represents the number of years a person can expect to live in good health; In the ABM area, women can now expect to live 79.5% of their life in good health, whilst men can expect to live 82.6% of their life in good health. Healthy life expectancy is slightly above the Welsh average at 65.5 years compared to 65.3.
- The Sport Wales survey indicates there has been an 8% increase in the number of children ‘hooked on sport’ within the ABM area, with 65% of children enjoying physical education ‘a lot’. 78% of pupils participated in extracurricular sport and were confident to try new activities. This suggests that the Healthy Schools Programme is having a beneficial impact how children enjoy sport.
- 58% of adults in the ABM area reported being physically active for 150 minutes or more in the previous week. In Swansea, levels of physical activity have fluctuated over the recent past but more recently physical inactivity in Swansea has exceeded the Wales average. In 2014 the Public Health Wales Observatory highlighted that 35.7% of adults are physically inactive in Swansea, more than the Wales average of 34% but less than the ABMU area average of 37.6%, suggesting further work is needed to identify why there are differences between the areas.
- Swansea has consistently exceeded its referral targets to the National Exercise Referral Scheme leading to accelerated return to health and for some weight loss and reduced demands on services.
- Smoking is a key contributor to respiratory disease including COPD, lung cancer and exacerbation of asthma. Smoking also has a negative impact on diabetes, blood pressure and heart disease. Trend data shows that the prevalence of smoking is declining and is currently below the Welsh average in Swansea. The ABM area has the lowest percentage of smokers aged 11-16 in Wales.
- The percentage of adults binge drinking on at least one day per week have slowly decreased since 2007. This corresponds with slight falls in alcohol related admissions across ABMU over the period 2010/11 to 2014/15 for both alcohol-specific and alcohol-attributable conditions. Alcohol consumption has generally fallen across the ABMU area over the five years to 2013/14 and is comparable to consumption patterns across Wales. However the pattern in Swansea is less positive, with percentages from 2011/12 onwards being higher than both ABMU and Wales. This is believed to be attributed to the corresponding increase in the student population who generally have a higher alcohol consumption level; the impact of which increases demand on both policing and health services.

- The overprescribing of antibiotics increases the risk of drug misuse and ABMU Health Board has the highest primary care antibiotic prescribing rate in Wales and the national prescribing indicator aims to see a reduction in prescribing year on year. ABMU's Big Fight Campaign aims to improve patient outcomes and minimise the potential risks for increasing antibiotic resistance and C. difficile infection by supporting local GPs to promote good antimicrobial stewardship and reduce inappropriate use of antibiotics by educating the public about the dangers of antibiotic resistance.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Percentage of Adults who are obese (2014/15): Swansea 22.2%, Wales 22.6%. Values in Wales range from 18.6% in Ceredigion to 30.2% in Merthyr Tydfil (data source: Health in Wales).
- Percentage of children (aged 4-5 years) who are overweight or obese, 2011-2012 to 2014-2015: Swansea 26.3%, Wales 26.5%. Values in Wales range from 21% in Vale of Glamorgan to 32% in Merthyr Tydfil (data source: Health in Wales); suggesting that Swansea still has room for improvement.
- Percentage of adults who currently smoke: Swansea has the lowest percentage of adults that smoke within the ABM area and is 2.5% lower than the Welsh average (data source: GP cluster Lung Cancer profile).
- Percentage of children aged 11-16 years who smoke: at 3% the ABMU area figure is 1% less than the Welsh average and the lowest rate in Wales. The highest rates are in Cwm Taf and Aneurin Bevan areas (data Source: GP cluster Lung Cancer profile).
- Percentage of adults binge drinking on at least one day per week: Swansea has the highest percentage within ABMU and in Wales at 28.6%. The lowest rate was Pembrokeshire at 24.0% (data source: Welsh Health Survey – Benchmark data). This is thought to be due to the high student population within Swansea.
- Percentage of adults who reported drinking above guidelines on at least one day in the past week: Swansea has the second highest percentage in Wales at 45.0%, just below the highest rate (46.2%) in Monmouthshire. The lowest rate is Torfaen at 35.0% (data source: Welsh Health Survey – Benchmark data).

### **Differences within Swansea**

- The work of HHAUGAP has led to an enhanced health service within the City Centre, the area of greatest need.
- The Health Board area contains clusters with both the highest and lowest smoking prevalence in Wales with a 15.6 percentage point difference in prevalence. Within Swansea, Bay Health (the combined Bay East and Bay West community areas) has the lowest smoking prevalence at 13.1% and City has the highest at 28.7% (data source: Public Health Wales Observatory derived from Quality Outcomes Framework Data 2013/14 (QOF)). The higher rates tend to correspond with the areas of higher deprivation within Swansea.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The Sports Wales Survey identified that children were:
  - 2 x more likely to be hooked on sport if they are confident
  - 5 x more likely to be hooked on sport if they enjoy extra-curricular sport

- 9 x more likely to enjoy P.E 'a lot' if their ideas about school sport are always listened to.
- Public Health Score cards highlight that the number of adults who are obese is self-reported and likely to be an underestimate. The ABM and local authority area averages mask the variation between communities and by age group. The percentage that are overweight or obese peaks in the 45-64 year age band, suggesting that as people get older they become sedentary.
- The number of adults who smoke is also self-reported and likely to be an underestimate, masking the differences in age groups, genders and between areas of high and low deprivation.
- The Score cards highlight that there are important socio-demographic differences in healthy life expectancy. Not only can people from more deprived populations expect to live shorter lives, but a greater proportion of their life will be in poor health. The life expectancy gap between our least and most deprived communities reflects the way deprivation, poverty and the social determinants of health, e.g. housing and employment, affect the life chances of individuals and communities. Whilst the life expectancy at birth is increasing and on average people are living longer, this health gain is not equally distributed across the area's population.
- The most recent figures from the national Unlinked Anonymous Monitoring survey suggest that rates of HIV and hepatitis amongst injecting drug users accessing services in Swansea are higher than amongst service users in Wales and, for hepatitis C, higher than most regions of England.
- Anecdotal evidence from HM Prison Swansea suggests that a fast emerging problem is with the use of Novel Psychoactive substances with both newly received prisoners and for those that have been in the prison for some time. A Prisoner Health Needs Assessment has been undertaken to review actions within this area.
- Housing and homelessness is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17. They would like to see homes (e.g. sense of security, warmth, family) treated as importantly as housing, support for financial skills for independent living, support for young people to feel more part of the community, more done to resolve community issues (e.g. poor lighting, empty housing, lack of facilities) and more information about where to go for help.
- Substance abuse is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17.
- People with learning disabilities pointed to increased independence along with better information, community facilities and public service awareness as the things that matter to them (Western Bay Population Assessment 2017).
- Things that matter to young people include having; sufficient clubs, activities and events organised outside of school; safe local spaces to meet up with friends, including facilities such as sports pitches and parks; and support to help them maintain family and personal social relationships (WBPA 2017).

### **Future prospects**

- Being overweight or obese is a significant risk factor for type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, dementia, knee osteoarthritis, mental health disorders and back pain. The prevalence of this is underpinned by diets and physical activity levels of children

and adults not meeting guidelines for a healthy lifestyle. In particular, trends are showing low levels of initial breast feeding at birth, increased consumption of energy dense processed food, not meeting recommendations for fruit and vegetable consumption and high levels of sedentary behaviour all of which will exacerbate the above diseases and conditions.

- The over-use of antibiotics helps infections to become stronger and resistant to antibiotics. If the current level of antibiotics use continues, the risk of people dying from bacterial infection will increase.
- Treatment data suggests that there continues to be a considerable demand for support relating to heroin use in particular; also that the population using heroin may be ageing and may therefore need additional health and social support.
- There has been a huge take up of smokers switching to e-cigarettes to replace tobacco based products, as with anything new the future impacts upon health are unknown.
- There will be a significant increase in the number of people with sight and hearing loss – this alongside the fact that people experience sensory impairment alongside other long term, complex conditions means that higher levels of support will be required.
- People with a learning disability suffer with poorer health than the general population and this population is set to steadily rise to just over 2,000 people by 2030.
- The numbers of people experiencing autism will show a small increase over the next 10 years.

#### **What would improvement look like?**

- Promotion and support to new mothers to breast feeding at birth.
- Increase in consumption of fruit and vegetables in targeted areas.
- Increase in extra-curricular sport for children both generally and in targeted areas.
- Targeted sporting activities for the over 45s.
- A significant reduction in the expectation for, and the prescribing of antibiotics.
- The high cost of treatment of both HIV and hepatitis and their long term impact on health suggest that due consideration should be given to harm reduction and prevention strategies to reduce the risks of transmission amongst injecting drug users over the long term.
- Stronger services for children who are carers.
- A safe reduction in the number of looked after children.
- More accommodation options for children and young people leaving the care system.

#### **About the evidence**

- There appears to be little up-to-date evidence available for the following:
  - The use of drugs within Swansea
  - Health data generally around young people and children.
- More work is needed around the impacts of novel psychoactive substances within Swansea and HMP Swansea.

- Further analysis of community/cluster area level data on smoking, drinking and related issues could be developed.

## **E2: Children, young people and adults have good mental health and well-being**

<b>Evidence:</b>	Support for children and young people to develop emotional resilience and access services
	Support for people to live in resilient and sustainable communities
	Western Bay Population Assessment 2017
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> – Improvement is challenging as it relies on many other factors other than health and will need support from other work streams. For example levels of deprivation, access to education, levels of unemployment, good housing; environmental issues such green space and access to facilities.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• The main issue cited for this driver was that there is not enough support for people with mental health problems.</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 4.</li> </ul>

### **Swansea's strengths**

- Swansea's Ageing Well Steering Group is a strategic planning group for the needs of older people promoting knowledge and understanding of issues highlighted in the Ageing Well Plan. It has a multi-disciplinary membership (Health, Local Authority, Police, Fire, Public Health, Third Sector, 50+ Members) with three sub groups: Age Friendly Communities (including Dementia); Safe, Well and Independent Living; Falls Prevention.
- The Police are developing a better understanding of the needs of people with mental health needs so that they get the support they need rather than being drawn into the criminal justice system. A Welsh Government agreement to improve the system of care and support for people in a mental health crisis has been signed by the police forces, NHS, councils and other agencies.
- ABMU Health Board, The City and County of Swansea, The Patients' Council and Swansea Network of User Groups support the Swansea's World Mental Health Day Information and Resource Event. Over 50 providers give out information about the services available in the Swansea area.
- All ABMU and SW Police staff now undertake dementia awareness training and Swansea Council plan to train all staff to become 'Dementia Friends'.
- Swansea Business Improvement District (BID) Board supported Dementia Friends during 2014 with easy access to 850+ businesses in the city centre and all staff of city businesses were actively encouraged to attend a session run by volunteers.
- A new Welsh Government Strategy 'Together for Mental Health' was launched in October 2016. It is a ten-year, cross government strategy designed to improve the mental well-being of all residents in Wales. It covers all ages and contains a range of actions to support people with severe and enduring mental illness. The strategy sets

out ten priority areas for service improvement and will be implemented through three-year delivery plans for government and stakeholders.

- The vast majority of mental health care and support is provided to people in non-hospital settings. A wide range of services are provided to meet needs from low level wellbeing issues to complex conditions with significant risk issues. There are a variety of hospital based services for Swansea based at Cefn Coed.
- The Western Bay Area Planning Board and ABMU Local Mental Health Partnership Board have developed a joint delivery plan which provides for a service framework for the treatment of people with a co-occurring mental health and substance misuse problem and will lead to the delivery of integrated clinical practice in mental health and substance misuse services for adults, children and young people.
- Three GP Cluster Networks prioritised counselling services during 2015/16 and a further two identified counselling for young people as a priority for their network during 2016/17.
- As part of the work of the Swansea Healthy Cities Board an extensive directory has been created giving information on the support available from the community and voluntary sector which provides initial support and advice to individuals. This allows for early intervention or preventative work to take place and reduces demand on statutory services.
- Supporting young people to develop emotional resilience is a priority area for the Children and Young Peoples Partnership.
- The Local Area Coordination initiative established by the local authority helps the building of relationships within the community, supports older people, disabled people, people with mental health problems, and helps families and carers to build their vision for a good life. The service helps people stay strong and connected, feel safer, reduce isolation and help confidence.

### **Changes over time**

- Swansea's population is projected to increase by 21,600 (+9.0%) between 2014 and 2039. The biggest increases are projected in the older age bands with the over 85 population predicted to more than double by 2039. An ageing population is likely to represent a significant increase in the demand for health and social care services. There have been year on year increase in those registered on both the mental health and dementia register both within Swansea and the Health Board as a whole. As at 2016, on the dementia register there were 1,665 patients registered within Swansea, and 2,608 mental health patients registered.
- The Welsh Health Survey reports that 13% of adults in Wales reported currently being treated for any mental illness, with 10% of adults currently being treated for depression, 8% for anxiety 2% for another mental illness. Mental illness was more common amongst middle aged people, and was more common amongst women (16%) than men (10%). There was an increase in reported levels of mental illness for more deprived areas – at 8% in the least deprived fifth and rising steadily with deprivation to 20% in the most deprived fifth. The Council's Scrutiny Panel identified that the number of referrals into specialist CAMHS services had doubled in the last 4 years.

- The Welsh Health Survey 2015 reports that 19% of children in Wales have a long-standing illness; the most commonly reported being asthma (5%) a mental illness (5%) and a skin complaint (4%). This information is only available nationally.
- During April 2016 there were 77 CARAT (Counselling assessment referral and through care) patients in HM Prison Swansea. The Prison Health Care service work in partnership with CARAT, and deal with the clinical aspect of reducing prisoner dependency. The referrals in May 2016 were 89; in June 95; and in July 109. The main areas of substance misuse tend to be alcohol, heroin and poly-pharmacy.
- In June-August 2016 there were 142 prisoners seen in Mental Health Primary Care, of which 92 were new referrals. The clinic is for those with mild to moderate mental health issues, anxiety and depression, and it is also an assessment point.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- The Welsh Government statistical report 'Prevalence of Disability in Wales' (2007-2010) estimated the proportion of the working age population with a disability, as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) was roughly 20.1% in Swansea (28,100 people), whilst the rate for Wales was 20.2%. Of those 28,100 people, an estimated 9,600 (34%) had a physical disability, with 5,000 (18%) having respiratory or heart problems and 3,400 (12%) with long-standing or progressive illness. An estimated 10,000 (36%) people had other health problems. The report states that 'Other health problems' includes a variety of problems, for example mental illness.
- Where possible, parents seek to avoid changes of schools for their children in order to promote their child's educational stability and opportunities. This is particularly important for the well-being of a looked after child. Having invariably suffered considerable disruption in their family life, it is often vital that they keep the same school where there are staff and children who know them best. Swansea performed below the Wales average (in terms of children moving schools) in 2014/15.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- There are three community areas in Swansea that feature in the 20% most deprived areas in Wales (source: WIMD) in January 2016, these were Penderi, with 49% of its registered patients living in deprivation; City with 48% of its patients living in deprivation; and Llchwyr with 8% of its patients living in deprivation. These communities are likely to experience poorer health.
- Each of the Cluster Networks in Swansea (which mostly coincide with community areas) report a 1% increase on average in mental health patients over the last five years.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The discussions with staff within HMP Swansea highlight that support needs relating to substance misuse, housing and mental health issues are high for prisoners.
- Census data (ONS) suggests that there were more than 30,000 people providing unpaid care in Swansea in 2011, however these figures are likely to be much higher as anecdotal evidence indicates that many people are providing unpaid care but do not classify themselves as such. 17,346 people provide between 1-19 hours of unpaid care; 4,495 provide 20-49 hours of unpaid care; and 8,508 provide 50 or more hours of care each week.

- In the Swansea Carers Survey 2016, 100% of those consulted did not feel that health staff generally think about carers and their needs, and had not been asked by their GP if they were a carer or if they look after anyone. When young carers were asked if their school had told them where they can get support – 50% said no and 50% were unsure. Similarly 50% of young carers said they had not had any training for their caring role and 50% were unsure. 100% of carers said that they felt involved in the decisions made about the person they care for, and that they had been given advice, information and support when the person they care for was discharged from hospital.
- In the separate Living Well Survey, 51% said they always felt involved when it came to GPs and other professionals, 25% said usually, 19% said sometimes and 5% said they are never involved. 100% of those asked said they had not been offered a carers information pack from the Health Board in a hospital setting. 100% of those asked did not have a coping plan ready for a crisis and only half of those asked felt they would know where to go in a crisis. When asked where they would go for advice and support, 33% of those asked said social services, 22% said specific voluntary organisations, 17% said internet searches, 2% said hospital settings, and 26% 'other'.
- There were more female than male carers involved in these consultations and this is reflected in the greater burden of caring being within the female population.
- Looked after children are more likely to have an increased risk of developing mental health problems than their peers, and are at greater risk of self-harming or suicide. Children with a learning disability are also more likely to have a mental health problem and a higher proportion can expect to live in poverty following their transition to adult life, particularly with the impact of national welfare reforms.
- Mental health is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17. They would like to see a broader definition of mental health and emotional wellbeing, schools having a better understanding including the links to children's rights and more partnership working to support children and young people.
- Anti-bullying is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17. They would like to see effective help and support for people being bullied, people looking out for the signs of bullying, safe places where people can get support, rights respecting schools and open and transparent contact between parents, school, young people and others involved to prevent and/or deal with bullying.
- A 2017 scrutiny inquiry looking at the Council's Tackling Poverty strategy heard from people experiencing poverty that, as a knock-on effect of various experiences – including unemployment, family breakdown, self-identity and low self-esteem – a major factor in these group's lives is stress and anxiety and this can be a huge barrier. Although many of the participants had definite aspirations or 'wishes' for the future they clearly had difficulties seeing past their current circumstances.
- A 2016 scrutiny inquiry looking at Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services found that parents of children with mental health issues often struggle to get help – there is confusion about the role and scope of assessment and treatment services available.

## **Future prospects**

- Poor mental health or low emotional resilience is a key factor for a large number of young people entering the criminal justice service and failure to tackle this will just create a revolving door culture resulting in them being unable to break the cycle of criminality. Conversely people with poor mental health are also more likely to be victims of crime.
- Currently it is not clear how great the need for emotional resilience is at a local level. This may have greater ramifications than expected if a base line position is not established.
- Carers provide extensive and free care and support – if they themselves do not receive support a far greater burden will fall upon agencies to provide care to those in need. In addition consideration should be given to the increase in safeguarding issues reported in England where the carer is the perpetrator.
- Working in partnership between Local Authority, ABMUHB and Education ensures there is a thorough assessment and monitoring of the health and well-being of children looked after via the specialist LAC Health Team, with attention also paid to the smaller number of children who are placed out of county. Swansea are constantly striving to drive up the educational attainment of looked after children, supported by the efforts of the LAC Education Steering Group and LAC Education Team in order to improve their opportunities and break the cycle of low attainment.
- A young carer who takes responsibility for someone such as a parent - who is ill, disabled, elderly, experiencing mental distress, affected by substance misuse, or who has substantial responsibility for caring for a sibling - are themselves at risk of emotional and mental health problems in their current or future life. There are around 30-60 known young carers in Swansea, and there are likely to be more, who need support to achieve their own well-being. The reasons for this under-reporting is varied - for some families, it may be the result of a fear or an anxiety of involving statutory services. Moving forwards, Swansea needs to improve awareness of the support needs of this particular group of children and young people in caring roles.

## **What would improvement look like?**

- Development of the work of the Mental Health Partnership to deliver the actions contained within the WG 'Mental Health Together Strategy'.
- Healthcare staff identify and consider carers needs e.g. signposting them to appropriate support.
- Expansion of the range of CAMHS services within Swansea.
- Development or commissioning of data collection regarding the mental health and emotional resilience of children and young people.
- Children who are assessed as having therapeutic needs are able to have those needs met whether through Primary Mental Health Services or commissioned services.

## **About the evidence**

- NHS Wales statistics are only available at a national level.
- 2011 Census data is available at local authority, national and local levels – potentially for community areas.
- Welsh Health Survey data on mental health is only available nationally.

- There is a gap in data available for children and young people with mental ill health and for data regarding their ability to develop emotional resilience.

### E3: Older people age well and are supported to remain independent

<b>Evidence:</b>	Falls by older people
	Older people's opportunities for learning and employment
	Loneliness and isolation among older people
	Western Bay Population Assessment 2017
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>5</b> – Whilst there is some effective work taking place there is a need for more information regarding the impact that the year on year increase in life expectancy of the people of Swansea is likely to have on services. There are also gaps in our knowledge regarding area needs to allow for targeted work to take place.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• The main issues cited within this driver included there needs to be better care within the community and there needs to be better joined up working between health and social services.</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 5.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Swansea has an active community and voluntary sector providing services to carers and older people. The Healthy City Partnership has produced a directory of services that are available to the community and GP practices use it to signpost patients for support.
- Swansea's Ageing Well Plan and Independence of Older People Strategy 2015-2020 is delivered by the Ageing Well Steering Group and ensures a partnership approach to the wellbeing of people aged 50+. It has the following priority areas:
  - Health and support
  - Finance
  - Getting out and about and social activity.
- The City and County of Swansea signed the Dublin Declaration on Age Friendly Cities and Communities in Europe in February 2014. The World Health Organisation has produced a checklist for those who wish to make their city more age friendly, which allows for self-assessment and charts its progress. Key to its success is the involvement of older people in describing their own experiences of the city's positive characteristics and barriers.
- Swansea has also developed Local Area Coordinators, whose role is to help anyone build relationships within their community.
- The Health Board has developed the Anticipatory Care Project, which uses a multi-disciplinary approach to stratifying the most vulnerable, frail elderly population most at risk of losing their independence. It facilitates the development of a multi-disciplinary team around the older person ensuring that operational policies, procedures and service models are developed and implemented in a common way, creating an integrated service to achieve more sustainable care in the community.

- Make Every Contact Count is a PSB partnership initiative launched in October 2016. It is based on the premise that everyone who comes into contact with members of the public has the opportunity to have a conversation to improve health and public safety.

### **Changes over time**

- Health Board hospital admission data on falls patients admitted to hospital suggests that generally falls have decreased between 2013/14 (2,507 falls) and 2015/16 (2,405 falls). Falls from and on steps and stairs have fallen from 198 to 178; fall on same level from slipping tripping and stumbling have fallen from 428 to 373; Unspecified falls have fallen from 500 to 425. However one category has seen an increase; - fall on same level increased from 214 to 247. Of the 2405 total falls admitted to hospital 1547 of the patients were aged over 65 years of age. If the age range is expanded to include 50-64 years this figure rises to 1751 patients. This highlights that whilst travel is in the right direction there still remains substantial improvements to be made in reducing falls in the over 50's.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Further analysis is needed regarding independence, dementia within Swansea by network / community area (aged 65+), differences in respect of falls and older people's opportunities for learning and employment.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- No local area information is available regarding older people's independence.
- In the last three years the number of people living with dementia has risen steadily year on year – by 0.5% across each of Swansea's cluster / community areas. Across the ABMU area it has risen by 0.7%, suggesting a continued increase in demands for health and support services.
- According to the Daffodil All Wales research and population projection tool, in 2015, an estimated 4,653 of Swansea's adult population have a learning disability; of this number 969 (20.8%) have a moderate or severe learning disability. Using the latest research estimates, around 32,200 people aged 16 or over in Swansea may have one Common Mental Disorder e.g. anxiety depression and OCD. Nearly half this number (14,573) have two or more conditions, along with those experiencing borderline personality disorder (913), antisocial personality disorder (703) and those experiencing psychosis (811).

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- The Kings Fund report that around a third of people age over 65 fall every year, but that it is not an inevitable part of getting older and highlight the work undertaken by Torbay to reduce falls in this age group. The Health Board Anticipatory Care project is based on the work undertaken in Torbay.
- The Chartered Society for Physiotherapists report in their new economic model of falls prevention that in Wales preventative physiotherapy for older people could lead to 9396 fewer falls resulting in £15,869,911 cost savings. Without that investment, by 2020 it projects 18.2% more care home admissions due to falls.

- As noted earlier, recent engagement with older people in Swansea through Network 50+ (the Ageing Well Survey March 2015) determined the following as key priorities: health and support; finance; getting out and about and social activity.
- The survey also asked what makes an age-friendly community. In summary, responses included:
  - Having information which is easy to understand
  - Good citizenship e.g. courtesy and respect towards older people
  - Accessible services and venues
  - Feeling safe inside and outside the home
  - Opportunities to take as full a part in society as possible
  - A choice of housing options
  - Good and affordable transport, particularly in rural areas
  - Health services, including a good GP service
  - Other services that support people.
- The survey also included questions on dementia and asked what people felt makes a Dementia-Supportive Community. Responses included:
  - Better education and understanding of the condition
  - Places that are accepting of people with dementia and their families
  - Access to good advice and people and agencies that can help.
- The Living Well Survey (also March 2015) asked what barriers are there to older people learning and developing new skills. Responses included:
  - Financial issues e.g. course fees.
  - Courses specifically for the over 50s
  - Physical access to venues e.g. mobility, travel distance, transport
  - Lack of publicity about opportunities.
  - Other issues, e.g. health, confidence, educational limitations.

### **Future prospects**

- There are 369,186 unpaid carers in Wales, which is approximately 12% of the population. In Swansea the 2011 Census recorded 30,349 residents providing unpaid care, this represents around 12.7% of the population; which is fairly consistent with the percentage in Wales as a whole. The predicted number of unpaid carers in Swansea in 2015 was slightly higher at 30,604 (source: Daffodil Cymru).
- It is predicted that there will be little difference in the number of young carers in Swansea 1,936 (2015 predicted Daffodil) and predictions for 2035 of 1,927.
- Predictions for those aged between 25 and 64 show a slight increase of around 9% in unpaid carers from the number predicted in 2015 (20,553) and that predicted in 2035 (22,140).
- The most significant predicted increase in the number of unpaid carers in Swansea is in the 65+ age range. An increase of around 14% is predicted for those aged 65 to 74 from the 4,782 (predicted 2015) to 5,454 (2035).
- A greater increase (32%) is predicted of unpaid carer numbers in the 75 to 84 age range from 2,513 in 2015 to 3,318 in 2035 (Daffodil).
- Even greater is the predicted increase (105%) in the number of unpaid carers aged over 85 from 570 in 2015 to 1162 in 2035 (Daffodil). With a predicted 719 people aged 85+ providing at least 50 hours a week in unpaid care by 2035.

- At the end of 2015/16, there were 6027 adults in Swansea receiving direct support from social services (Last year = 5616), an increase of 7%.
- There are over 1600 carers who are known to social services, with over 600 carers having an assessment of their own support needs. Supporting carers well is a vital, sustainable approach to getting the most out of care and support resources, in supporting older people in their own homes. This need will increase over time as more and more people provide unpaid care.
- Dementia is likely to be an increasingly significant issue. In 2015, approximately 6,979 people in Western Bay had a diagnosis of dementia. By 2030, this is predicted to rise by 48% to 10,295.
- Well-being may be affected by loneliness and social isolation leading to a number of physical and mental health problems. By 2030 an estimated 26,250 people aged 65 and over are predicted to be living alone in Swansea.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- Extension of compulsory dementia awareness training to major employers in Swansea.
- To understand and act upon the assessment of older peoples independence within Swansea.
- Inclusion of 'good citizenship' within the school curriculum in line with age friendly community standards.
- Reduction in the barriers to older people learning or developing new skills.
- Increased opportunities for people to connect and socialise.
- A change in perceptions of the abilities of older people.
- People plan better for old age.

### **About the evidence**

- Hospital data on falls is reliant on how an issue is coded by A&E, e.g. if a person who has consumed excessive amounts of alcohol falls over and breaks an arm, this could be coded either as a fall, an alcohol issue or both.
- To date, falls data has not been collated by community / cluster area or regionally.
- Further work is needed in respect of a number of key areas around care, including the impacts of change, safeguarding issues/considerations, and impacts on the long-term health of carers.
- Further work is needed to identify the level and type of housing support that is currently provided and is likely to be needed in the future in order to ensure that people remain independent.
- The data and evidence of the current and future needs of older people with protected characteristics living in Western Bay is currently unknown.
- Further research is needed to ensure we understand the needs of our growing minority groups.
- Further work is needed to gather evidence of the number of older people who are feeling lonely or socially isolated, together with the links between loneliness and poor mental and physical health. Tackling loneliness and social isolation will lead to improved health and well-being.

## E4: People are safe and feel safe

<b>Evidence:</b>	Violence against women and children, domestic abuse and sexual violence <i>(linked to driver A2)</i>
	Anti-social behaviour and all crime
	Community safety – within homes, businesses and on our roads
	Western Bay Population Assessment 2017
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>5</b> - Substantial work is ongoing regarding reducing violence against women and children, domestic abuse and sexual violence - linked with driver A2. Whilst the deaths/casualty figures of young drivers and passengers are reducing against the 2020 target, the cost to society of this type of incident is high for services (such as ambulance, police and health), and the families concerned. Extensive work is ongoing regarding anti-social behaviour within Swansea.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 5</li> <li>Comments for this driver centred around better lighting in areas, drug and alcohol problems within Swansea make people feel unsafe and addressing bullying in schools and online so children feel safe.</li> </ul>

### Swansea's strengths

- The Community Safety Partnership has undertaken a victim mapping and consultation exercise to provide a coherent understanding of both the provision of victim services and the needs of victims within South Wales, and are supporting the establishment and development of a collaborative restorative pilot project to support families experiencing domestic abuse.
- MAWW Fire and Rescue Service conduct Fire Safety inspections and provide support to business premises within an established risk-based inspection programme. They provide help, guidance and support to businesses to ensure that they continue to stay in business. They also provide business continuity management advice to assist with economic sustainability.
- The Fire Service also provides an extensive programme of Home Safety Checks to those most vulnerable in our communities to reduce fire risk within people's homes.
- MAWW Fire and Rescue Service have established a number of multi-agency initiatives to reduce fires and anti-social behaviour within our communities, i.e. Operation Dawns Glow and Operation BANG.
- Swansea has a strong Domestic Abuse multi-agency partnership with clear, formalised arrangements for its service delivery. It is a strategic priority for both the PSB and the local authority, and training is being rolled out across the Council. A Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop provides support and assistance across the continuum of need.
- Swansea is a White Ribbon City – awarded for its work to end male violence against women.
- Swansea is the first city in Wales to achieve the standard and receive the Purple Flag award. Swansea achieved a consistent rise in the number of people using the pubs

and other entertainment venues in the city centre after dark while at the same time enjoying a steady drop in crimes committed in the area.

- The Partnership is working alongside providers of victim services in order to identify common themes of work and to collectively plan for future delivery. Preparations are underway for the devolution of local commissioning responsibilities for victims to Police Commissioners. South Wales Police rates well for victim satisfaction, including ease of contact and treatment of victims.
- The Police are working with partners to deliver the commitments in the South Wales Police Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan. This is documented in the Police and Crime Plan which covers crime reduction in South Wales and is mirrored in the Safer Swansea Strategy.
- Health professionals have been recruited in each health board area to improve identification and referral across the health service.
- Honour Based Violence training is being delivered to Police Officers across Wales.
- Assault and other data is being shared more effectively between the Police, Local Health Boards and the Ambulance Service.
- A multi-agency 'Help Point' in Swansea has supported more than 400 vulnerable people in the night time economy within its first three months of operating, and is reducing demand on the police, ambulance and A&E departments.
- A multi-agency event was held to outline the approach to address anti-social behaviour within South Wales and consult on developing a joined up and consistent approach to implementing the Community Trigger and Community Remedy – alternative actions to address anti-social behaviour.
- A joint tender process is being developed with Integrated Offender Management to identify a suitable case management system to improve services to victims of anti-social behaviour and information sharing between agencies.
- Implementation of a pilot to standardise the risk assessment process for anti-social behaviour cases, improving victim satisfaction and reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour.
- The police are delivering vulnerability awareness training to door-staff and police officers to improve early interventions and prevent violence, specifically sexual violence.
- The *Know the Score: #DrinkLessEnjoyMore* campaign is addressing attitudes to alcohol and reminds people to “serve drinks not drunks”. Enforcing the responsibilities of licensees and consumers in the night time economy is a key focus.
- An agreement has been drawn together between the Police and Neighbourhood Watch South Wales, setting out the approach and aiming to identify local needs, understanding what works and focussing on cutting crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as increasing public confidence by working together to develop solutions.
- City regeneration, together with the development of continuous cycle routes along the bay and road improvements to reduce congestion along Fabian Way have facilitated easier and safer access to the city.
- Community Speed watch schemes are established in local areas across South Wales, providing volunteers with the equipment and training to carry out speed monitoring operations alongside Police and Community Support Officers.
- Road Safety Wales raise awareness in new drivers of the main traffic accident causes.

- A Safe Routes in Communities project was delivered 2014/15 in the Townhill Communities First area and involved extensive introduction of a 20mph speed limit near the schools and in the surrounding residential areas. Similar initiatives have since been introduced across the county with more planned. A Sustrans Schools Officer has been appointed to liaise with schools on their travel needs.
- A high frequency and accessible bus service to the new Swansea University campus has been developed along with a new cycle route and improvements to the existing route along Fabian Way. New wayfinding for the city centre has been installed and work has started on a city centre cycle network including off-road, traffic-free routes.
- Swansea University has formally adopted a sustainable travel plan for both campuses with an ongoing high level plan and numerous travel projects within it. They have also committed to undertaking a full staff and student travel survey every two years.

### Changes over time

- The number of domestic violence reports has fallen between 2014/15 to 2015/16. However there are spikes in the figures during certain occasions such as Christmas or sporting events like the Olympics which are likely to be linked to alcohol consumption. *See driver A2 for more information regarding Domestic Violence*
- Levels of anti-social behaviour in Swansea fell steadily in the 5 months from April 2015 to September 2015; however since then the rate of fall has slowed noticeably. Further work is needed to understand the impact of crime associated with substance misuse.

### Comparisons with other places

- In 2015 there were 5,543 road accidents involving personal injury in the UK, these recorded accidents resulted in 7,682 casualties, which was 526 fewer than in 2014. Within this total, 105 people were killed on Welsh Roads, which was 2 more than in 2014; 1,081 people were seriously injured, which was 79 (7%) fewer than in 2014; 6,496 people were slightly injured, which was 449 (6%) fewer than 2014. Data specific to Swansea is not yet available.

### Differences within Swansea

- No local area data / evidence has been compiled at this stage.

### Perceptions and perspectives

- Results from the Compass Survey, a South Wales Police survey to local residents (December 2014) suggested that:
  - 84.1% of residents in Swansea who were surveyed said they feel South Wales is very safe or fairly safe
  - 92.0% of residents in Swansea said they feel their local neighbourhood is fairly safe or very safe.
- A Welsh Government annual report (2013) stated that pedestrian casualties represented 23% of KSI (Killed and Seriously Injured) road traffic casualties and 11% of slight casualties in Wales. In 2013, there were 27 pedestrian fatalities, 233 serious pedestrian casualties and 792 slight pedestrian casualties. The risk of becoming a KSI casualty is highest for older children (aged 8-11), young teenagers (aged 12-15) and

for older adults (80+). Pedestrian casualties for 'working age' adults are associated with times when individuals leave work, or leave public houses and night clubs.

- National Statistics for Wales report that the Department of Transport summarises the financial costs to society of each type of casualty per incident (2012) as follows:
  - Fatal: £1,917,766
  - Serious: £219,043
  - Slight: £23,336.
- Domestic abuse is an important issue for children and young people in Swansea – it was one of the themes chosen by them for the 'Big Conversation' 2016/17.
- People experiencing violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence wish to see improved awareness of these issues and the services available, improved staff training, better housing options for people affected, increased ability of health services to respond to needs, development of support networks and groups, financial advice on financial matters, safety for victims when perpetrators work their way through the criminal justice system and are released from prison, support for children who have been in abusive households and support for perpetrators to change their behaviour.

#### **Future prospects**

- Whilst the number of casualties is generally decreasing in line with 2020 targets, data indicates that young people are disproportionately killed or seriously injured on Welsh roads as a percentage of the total population. Significant 'savings' for society could be made by reducing casualties.
- MAWW Fire and Rescue Service will expand their Home Safety product to become a Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Safe, Well and Independent Living (SWAIL) initiatives which will include priorities from other agencies/partners such as falls prevention, crime prevention, safeguarding, etc.

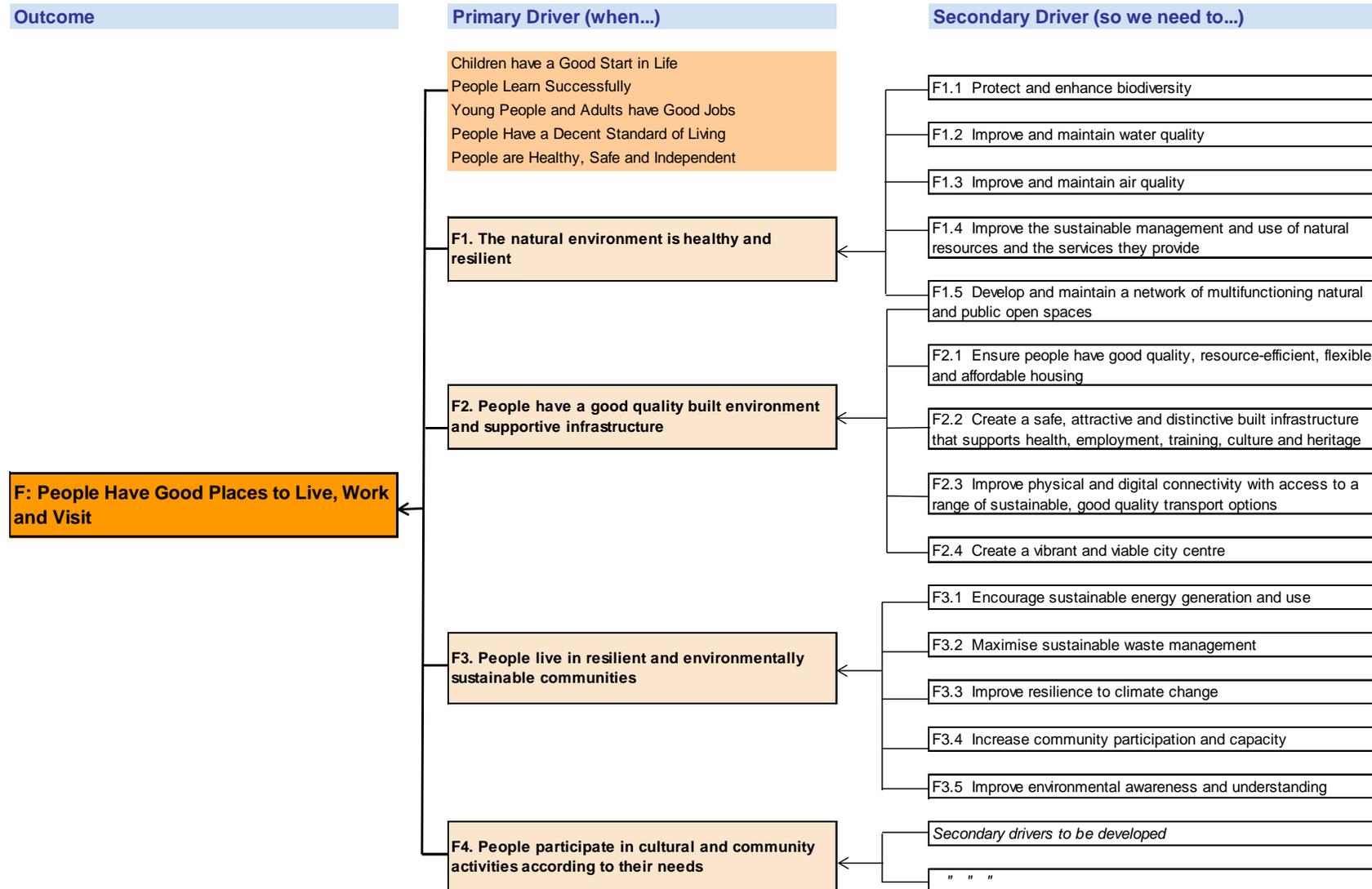
#### **What would improvement look like?**

- Further reduction in the death and casualty figures for young drivers and passengers in road traffic accidents.
- An initial increase in numbers reporting domestic abuse as confidence in the police and local services rises and awareness raising events make an impact.
- Further reduction in death and casualty figures from fire-related incidents.
- Further reduction in fires.
- Further reduction in ASB in relation to minor arson.

#### **About the evidence**

- Evidence regarding violence against women and children is included in driver A2.
- Local road safety data has not been accessed.
- Key fire statistics could be added later to this evidence.

# Outcome F: People Have Good Places to Live, Work and Visit



## About this Outcome

A high-quality and diverse natural environment can have a positive effect on physical and mental health by providing a wide variety of opportunities for exercise, enjoyment and leisure, as well as meeting our basic needs of food, water and clean air. The quality of our neighbourhoods, urban centres, transport systems and supporting infrastructure can all have a direct impact on our health and social wellbeing, safety, the economy and culture. Climate change has become a greater consideration and presents a risk to the environments that people live in and the wellbeing of people locally and across the world. The management of our natural resources and built environments can become more effective and sustainable with better understanding and the active involvement of communities.

The driver diagram splits Outcome F into three overall aspects of 'good places', relating to the natural environment (Primary Driver F1), built environment and infrastructure (F2), and sustainable communities (F3), and includes an additional primary driver around participation in cultural and community activities (F4). However, all six population outcomes are interconnected and other factors (or drivers) can also impact on the outcome – 'People have good places to live, work and visit'.

In summary, all four drivers have both positive and negative aspects to them; reflected in proposed well-being scores of between 4 and 6 in each case. The natural environment (F1) embraces a wide range of subject matter therefore a mixed picture (in terms of strengths/assets and concerns) is in some respects inevitable. Similarly, issues around the built environment and infrastructure (F2) contain positive and negative elements, although the overall picture is slightly less favourable. The factors around living in sustainable communities (F3) are again very diverse, and whilst the data shows a positive picture for some aspects, there is much more progress still to be made.

Available evidence around new driver F4 is again mostly positive; however more work is required to develop some aspects of its evidence base at this stage – evidence for this driver is largely from the perspective of the Council's cultural services. This analysis also includes initial consideration of the Welsh language in Swansea.

## Review of individual drivers: Outcome F

### F1: The natural environment is healthy and resilient

<b>Evidence:</b>	State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) [NRW]
	Swansea Local Biodiversity Action Plan [SBP]
	The State of Nature report 2016 [RSPB]
	LANDMAP [NRW]
	RIGS (Geological/Geomorphological Sites) audit [CCS]
	Open Spaces Assessment [CCS]
	AONB Management Plan [CCS]
	Percentage of water bodies achieving good or high overall status (NI45) [NRW]
	Swansea Air Quality Progress Report 2016 and air quality data [CCS]
	Tawe Trial Community Consultation Project Report [SEF]
	Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review 2016 [SEF]
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>5</b> - Certain aspects of our natural environment are in a positive situation but the continuing loss of biodiversity and accessible greenspace, along with the ecological status of our waterbodies and poor air quality in some areas, give serious cause for concern as these are likely to have an adverse impact on everyone's well-being. Ecosystem services need to be recognised and utilised more effectively and sustainably to ensure wellbeing can be improved now and sustained in the future.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 5.</li> <li>The main issue cited within this driver was the protection of green spaces and natural assets.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Great diversity and quality of landscapes, habitats, species and geology (50% of the county is of significant ecological value).
- The natural environment brings significant benefit to the economy and quality of life (as a primary attraction for tourists, businesses and residents).
- Bathing water quality excellent in six of eight designated points and others good (5 Blue Flag beaches and marina).
- Good level of accessible green space across most of county (Open Spaces Assessment).
- 15 Green Flags for parks (7) and community green spaces (8).
- Rural and coastal areas of the county have good air quality.
- Natural environment still supports some agriculture and fisheries.

#### Changes over time

- Biodiversity is declining (State of Natural Resources Report).
- Green space is reducing as there is insufficient brownfield land available for the level of house building required to meet Government projected household growth.
- Bathing water quality has improved but general water quality (measured under the Water Framework Directive) shows only a slight change in recent years.

- Areas of Swansea assessed as having or being at risk of poor air quality have increased and the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) has been extended.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Swansea's natural environment widely recognised, particularly for the quality of its landscapes and beaches (had the first AONB and first Local Nature Reserve).
- Compares well with other parts of Wales for Green Flags demonstrating that many green spaces are managed to a high standard, some with community involvement.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- More designated sites for nature are generally found in the west of the county, e.g. the Bay West and Llŵchwr Community Areas.
- Poorer water quality is more prevalent in east (e.g. Lower Tawe, in the City and Cwm Tawe Community Areas).
- The area that has been designated a AQMA for the longest is one of the least affluent areas of Swansea (Hafod) but other designated areas are mixed (Sketty and Fforestfach).

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Citizens consider the natural environment as important but that it is declining (Tawe Trial Community Consultation Project Report).
- Citizens believe that managing the natural resources is a shared responsibility and many say they would like to have a say or be involved (Tawe Trial Community Consultation Project Report).
- Financial pressures and lack of understanding are undermining policies to retain or enhance biodiversity and accessible green space e.g. through disposal of land and lack of appropriate management.
- There is probably an under recognition of environmental degradation due to shifting baselines e.g. people get used to wildlife species not being there (anecdotal).

### **Future prospects**

Without future/active intervention:

- Further decline in biodiversity, loss of connectivity and species is likely.
- A loss of accessible green space to development and house building is likely.
- An increase in the spread of invasive species (e.g. Japanese Knotweed) is likely.
- Water quality would not improve.
- Data suggests a downward trend of air pollution in two of the three parts of the AQMA but proposed city centre developments may introduce residential use in areas of high traffic flow and increase risk of exposure.
- Ecosystems services will become less secure and opportunities will be missed.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- The natural environment would be seen as a clear priority and invested in.
- There would be no further loss of biodiversity.
- Ecologically valuable sites would be fully protected.
- Invasive species would be under control.

- Agri-environment schemes would be adopted and driven by farmers.
- Measures would be implemented to improve water quality and air quality.
- Spatial planning would promote the sustainable management of natural resources e.g. through the adopted Local Development Plan (LDP).
- Green infrastructure principles would be incorporated into new developments, in line with LDP policy.

#### About the evidence

- Most of the evidence is of high quality, robust and current but some is national and not disaggregated to a local level e.g. biodiversity loss.
- Ecosystem services in Swansea need to be mapped and more research is needed on public opinions of the natural environment.
- Research on the health impacts of poor water and air quality, and the positive effects that the natural environment can have on mental and physical health, need to be drawn upon.

## F2: People have a good quality built environment and supportive infrastructure

<b>Evidence:</b>	Review of Retail Capacity, Investment Potential and Strategy (2013) [CCS]
	City centre footfall data [CCS]
	Homelessness Preventions data (NI34) [CCS]
	Percentage of dwellings with adequate energy performance (NI33) [CCS]
	Private Housing Stock Condition Survey (2010) [CCS]
	Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review 2016 [SEF]
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> - Whilst there have been some positive developments and improvements to urban areas in recent years, Swansea is still falling well short of its potential as a regional centre and there remain significant deficiencies in the level, range and quality of housing and supportive infrastructure in both urban and rural areas. The quality of our homes and the wider built environment can have a significant direct impact on our health and wellbeing.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 4. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• The main issues cited within this driver included the impact that new housing has on roads, traffic and schools, more affordable housing is needed and more innovative developments.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- The city centre is close to beach, river and urban forest enabling citizens and visitors to easily access green/blue space and providing an attraction to investors.
- Two universities in the city enabling citizens easy access to higher education and providing employment, partnership and research opportunities.
- An increasing number of developments built to BREEAM Excellence standards.
- High public satisfaction rating for local neighbourhoods (Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review).

- New bus station and recently refurbished train stations (Swansea and Gowerton) have helped to make the use of public transport more attractive.
- Council housing stock improving and new social housing being built (Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review).
- Good level of support available for improvements to private housing, including adaptations and urban development schemes.
- Affordable housing available in some areas of Swansea.
- High level of successful outcomes for those presenting to the Council as homeless.
- Some good off-road cycling routes e.g. around bay and along river.
- Digital connectivity is good for most parts of the county.
- Plans in place for significant city centre developments and regeneration.
- Emerging LDP has a focus on improving the quality of built environment and infrastructure.

### **Changes over time**

- Footfall in the city centre fell 26% between 2010 and 2012 but then stabilised (City centre footfall data).
- Some piecemeal developments have been built without supporting infrastructure.
- Levels of street cleanliness have improved (Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review).
- Quantity of housing has increased but well below the level of demand.
- Proportion of social housing that meets WHQS continues to increase.
- Number of vacant properties brought back into use or dealt with is increasing.
- Park and ride patronage has decreased in recent years (one site closed).
- Cycling has increased but some public transport services have reduced (Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review).
- Increase in homelessness preventions.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Retail ranking for city centre (relative to other cities) has declined.
- There is limited access to public transport in rural areas where there is greater car dependency.
- There is poorer access to services and facilities in rural areas.
- Currently 17% of Swansea's employment is in the city centre, compared with 30-40% in similar sized towns/cities – increased employment levels in the city centre would increase footfall and stimulate the city centre economy.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- Lack of affordable housing in west Swansea and rural areas.
- A disproportionate number of those presenting as homeless are from vulnerable groups.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Swansea City Centre is perceived as tired, dated and declining with an average offer, complex traffic system, congestion and poor/expensive car parking.

- City centre is currently failing in its retail and leisure offer due to poorly configured retail space, dated environment and tenant profile.
- City Centre office floorspace is poor quality and dated stock and low office rents (typically below £8/sq ft) undermine viability of private sector led development. As a result there is a lack of suitable office space for start-up or grow on companies (particularly tech businesses).
- Swansea Voices surveys suggest that the public rate the city centre poorly in terms of general cleanliness and overall appearance.

#### **Future prospects**

- Without significant intervention, there will be further decline in the retail ranking and a decrease in footfall and businesses being attracted to the city centre.
- Plans are in place for all social housing in Swansea to meet WHQS by 2020 but housing provision is likely to continue to fall well short of demand.
- Changes to the Local Housing Allowance and other welfare reforms will increase the need for more affordable shared housing options.
- Proposed city centre developments, including the City Deal and tidal lagoon, along with the electrification of rail services to Swansea could have a major impact on reversing the trends.
- LDP will ensure development enhances the quality of places and is sustainable.

#### **What would improvement look like?**

- Greater level of inner city living, employment and footfall.
- Successful regeneration of city centre and outlying areas.
- More green infrastructure in place and good connectivity to natural assets.
- Sufficient housing to meet the level of demand and respond to changing needs, including affordable and social housing, and more sustainable options for sharing.
- More active travel and affordable, high quality public transport.
- More public spaces, public art and development which enhances the quality of places and responds positively to aspects of local context and character, contributing towards a sense of place.

#### **About the evidence**

- Some data is outdated and some is limited in scope.
- There is a particular lack of current data about transport use and accessibility to services and facilities.
- Current SAP data only relates to council housing stock and information is needed on private stock and non-domestic properties.
- Some surveys on public perceptions are not up-to-date.
- Data should be gathered on the state of critical infrastructure and critical infrastructure planning.

### F3: People live in resilient and environmentally sustainable communities

<b>Evidence:</b>	Renewable Energy Assessment [CCS] / Renewable Energy Locator [Green Alliance]
	Percentage of municipal waste recycled, composted or reused [CCS]
	Properties at medium or high risk of flooding (NI32) [NRW]
	Percentage of dwellings with adequate energy performance (NI33) [CCS]
	Tawe Trial Community Consultation Project Report [SEF]
	Swansea Environment Strategy Progress Review 2016 [SEF]
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>4</b> - Some aspects of community resilience and sustainability are improving, such as waste management, reduction in flood risk and renewable energy generation. However, greater community engagement and participation will be required if the necessary changes in lifestyle and practices are to be realised and the negative impacts of climate change on well-being minimised.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 5. The average score given by the public was 4</li> <li>• The main issues cited within this driver included that more needs to be done to protect green space in Swansea, more incentives for living sustainable lifestyles and changes to waste and recycling in Swansea.</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 4.</li> </ul>

#### Swansea's strengths

- Large number of groups and partnerships involved in environmental activity with a good level of collaboration.
- An improving level of energy efficiency in homes and other buildings.
- An increasing amount of local renewable generation (domestic, community and commercial).
- Achievement of a 60% municipal recycling rate and good recycling services.
- Reducing number of properties at risk of flooding (improving property values).
- Growing involvement in managing community assets e.g. Friends of Parks groups, and in community food growing.

#### Changes over time

- The energy efficiency rating (SAP) for council housing stock has improved.
- The local authority and other organisations have reduced their carbon emissions.
- Local energy generation from renewable sources has increased.
- The amount of waste diverted from landfill (recycled, composted or reused) has significantly increased and household waste arisings have decreased.
- The number of fly tipping incidents in Swansea rose significantly in 2014/15 after falling repeatedly in previous years.
- The number of schools achieving in the EcoSchools programme and similar schemes has increased.

#### Comparisons with other places

- Swansea is around average in Wales for recycling but the amount of residual waste per capita is one of the lowest in Wales.

- The Environment Centre and the long history of environmental partnership working is quite unique to Swansea, at least within Wales, providing a good foundation and supporting mechanisms for engaging the public and organisations in improving environmental sustainability.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- The Renewable Energy Locator places Swansea about midway in terms of renewable energy generation across Wales and England but some neighbouring counties are ranked much higher.
- Renewable Energy Assessment identifies that ‘unconstrained areas’ for new schemes are mainly located in north Swansea (e.g. Llŵchwr Community Area).
- Participation in kerbside recycling varies across Swansea (generally lower in less affluent areas).

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Citizens are interested in their environment and many would like to have a say or be involved in the way it is managed (Tawe Trail Community Consultation Project Report).
- A 2016 scrutiny inquiry looking into community action in Swansea found that more needs to be done to recognise the work of volunteers and community groups and the vital difference they make to their communities. More volunteers are needed if communities are going to take control of some community services and facilities.

### **Future prospects**

- It is likely that improvements will continue in relation to energy efficiency, energy generation, waste management and flooding risk reduction.
- Environmental awareness and understanding is likely to increase and community participation in environmental activity and more sustainable practices should increase but may not be at the rate or to the level needed to ensure sufficient resilience to climate change and other challenges.

### **What would improvement look like?**

- Swansea’s carbon and ecological footprints would decrease as it progresses towards zero-waste, energy self-sufficiency and a lower level of consumption.
- There would be a strong level of volunteering and community management and/or ownership of natural and community assets (sites, facilities and services).
- Fewer properties would be at risk of flooding.
- More homes would be energy efficient with lower levels of fuel poverty.
- There would be more walking, cycling and use of public transport.
- There would be more microgeneration (energy) and food growing within the community and in homes to help communities become more resilient and self-sufficient.

### About the evidence

- Some of the evidence is robust and consistent (e.g. waste and flood risk) but for many aspects under this driver the data is lacking or inadequate e.g. more community participation and environmental awareness.
- More information would be useful on carbon footprints and energy generation.

### F4: People participate in Swansea’s cultural and community activities according to their needs

<b>Evidence:</b>	Number of Day Visitors and Staying Visitors to Swansea (STEAM figures)
	Number of people engaging with culture (museums and cultural usage)
	Number of people trying a new sporting activity - Children (School Sports Survey) and Adults (Sport Wales Adults survey) (New Wellbeing Measure)
	Community involvement in cultural provision (Number of services sustained in the community previously managed by the Council)
	Mean mental health well-being score for people (NI 29) - as a measure of cultural and community activity (New Wellbeing Measure – WG survey)
	Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year (New Wellbeing Measure – WG survey)
	Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week (New Wellbeing Measure – WG survey)
	Percentage of museums and archives holding archival/heritage collections meeting UK accreditation standards (New Wellbeing Measure – WG survey)
	2011 (& 2001) Census statistics (Welsh language), Office for National Statistics
<b>Well-being score and summary:</b>	<b>6</b> - There is a high regard and positivity felt for the cultural offer across Swansea, with high take-up, availability and diversity in the offer. However, community involvement could be further developed in some areas.
<b>Note:</b> Public Consultation (Feb-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultation draft suggested that the score should be a 6. The average score given by the public was 5</li> <li>• The main issues cited within this driver included more community activities and involvement is needed and more advertising of free activities (<i>‘Support for community and cultural activities is ever more limited’</i>).</li> <li>• After consideration, we feel that the current score for this driver should be 6.</li> </ul>

### Swansea’s strengths

- The culture of Swansea is its own self-image – it defines who we are, why we are here, our past, and our future; what makes us *Swansea*. It is a proud and historic city with an illustrious past. Culture touches all aspects of life, sometimes without citizens realising it.
- Cultural and community opportunities across the City and County, though discretionary, are well used and popular. Swansea’s communities also have their own identities where involvement and participation is available.
- Cultural opportunities formally provided by the Council and partners across Swansea include public events, exhibitions, plays and musical performances. Council venues include the Grand Theatre, Swansea Museum, the Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, community centres, parks, libraries and leisure centres; whilst partner venues

include the Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea City Centre, local arts and theatre groups, choirs and churches. The move towards commissioning of local authority services may result in even more community involvement.

- Many less formal cultural opportunities exist, accessible in venues in communities across the county - including a range of classes, dance and theatre, provided via community groups, clubs, societies, individuals and the media. Much of this is free.
- Sporting opportunities are provided by the Council, schools, colleges, sports clubs and sporting bodies – ranging from individuals practicing sports in a park to pub football teams to organised large sporting events such as the Swansea Bay 10k.
- Community participation rates in cultural and sporting activities are high.
- Cultural activity has clear health benefits. People are aware that physical activity and participation is important to a healthy lifestyle. Cultural activities - art, music and performance - can also have a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing.
- Language and literature are important to the cultural make-up of Swansea – Dylan Thomas for example is a world famous Swansea personality.
- The Welsh language also owes much to the history of Swansea; the deep roots of the language and its literature can be traced back beyond the medieval period through Welsh language poets and their patrons (such as Casnodyn and Hopcyn ap Tomos), forward into the 19th century (Gwrysydd, Daniel James, who wrote Calon Lan) to the present day. Swansea has helped mould Welsh cultural traditions.
- Swansea is South West Wales' premier economic/cultural hub, and half of Wales's Welsh-speakers live within an hour's drive of the City. Bodies such as Fforwm Abertawe seek to encourage take up and use of the language across Swansea.
- The city has a wonderful musical heritage – from traditional Welsh language forms, to the choral tradition in Welsh and English (the Morryston Orpheus), individual musicians (Spencer Davies, Terry Williams), bands such as Badfinger and classical composers like Sir Karl Jenkins.
- Local supporting policies and partnerships contribute to this driver, including the Creating an Active & Healthy Swansea Action Plan, Healthy Cities, the Creative Swansea Partnership, and the Culture in Sustainable Cities Pilot.
- There are also many partnerships working through management bodies (e.g. Wales National Pool Swansea, sports clubs), trade groups (Tourism Swansea Bay, Rural Swansea Partnership), and national groups and bodies (National Museum of Wales, Arts Council, Sport Wales, Visit Wales, CyMAL).
- This Cultural wealth forms the foundation on which the City of Culture 2021 bid will be built and from which the 2021 programme will grow.

### **Changes over time**

- Figures for Council facility usage are a good indicator of cultural take up across Swansea as a whole. Cultural usage continues to increase year on year, especially if including participation at public events. Measurement of national indicators over time will also allow benchmarking against other Welsh local authority areas.
- There is an overall continuous upward movement in usage via special events, with the Airshow and other large one-off events providing additional boosts.

- Museum and galleries usage (incl. Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea Museum and the National Waterfront Museum) is still trending upwards, especially with the opening of the refurbished Glynn Vivian Art Gallery (October 2016).
- Combined indoor and outdoor leisure and sports facilities, via council and partner facilities (e.g. the LC, Wales National Pool Swansea, 360 Watersports Centre), shows an upward trend in usage.
- Day visitors to Swansea have increased over the last nine years.
- Usage of community facilities is stable, and with more services moving to community usage over the next few years there will be an increasing incentive for communities to become involved.
- Library usage increased when the new Central Library opened but then in line with national trends declined slightly. This is now recovering as libraries seek to increase their attractiveness by revising the services and functions they offer.
- Theatre usage figures are available for local authority venues. Council theatre usage will therefore be added to this analysis.
- AberDewi, a celebration of the area and its Welsh and Welsh-language heritage, has since 2015 provided a manifest exhibition and promotion of the presence of the Welsh language in the City Centre.
- Welsh medium education has been widely promoted with the result that the number of pupils educated in this sector has increased from 3,284 in 2007 to 4,908 in 2017 – rising from 9.8% (of the total school population, 2007) to 13.7% in 2017.
- In GCSE Welsh First Language, over 80% of students attain the higher grades (A\*-C), and numbers entering this subject have increased steadily to 254 in 2016. Results for the GCSE Welsh Second Language full course show that over 90% attain grades A\*-C and that numbers entering the subject have increased – a 17.7% entry rate (426 entries) in 2016 compared to 9.2% (239 entries) only four years earlier.

### **Comparisons with other places**

- Usage data is available locally and nationally for many cultural services.
- Welsh Government has identified several National Indicators related to cultural and community participation (e.g. NIs 35-40). Some of the data is local but most is gathered nationally, e.g. via National Survey for Wales. Arts Council Wales also collects theatre usage data which allows some comparison across Wales.
- NI 29 - Mean mental health well-being score - can also (in part) provide a measure of cultural and community activity.
- Further analysis of this data will be undertaken in the coming months, which can then be analysed and matched with community experiences (e.g. from visitor and user surveys).
- The 2011 Census shows that, with 26,332 Welsh speakers, Swansea has the 8th highest total of the 22 Welsh local authorities.
- The percentage of Welsh speakers (11.4% of those aged 3 and over) places Swansea 13th of 22 authorities. This compares with 19.0% for Wales overall.
- The 2011 Census figures indicate a fall in the number of Welsh speakers of 2,606 since 2001 (down 2.0%) – compared with falls of 20,352 and 1.8% across Wales.
- In 2011, our two neighbouring local authorities – Carmarthenshire and Neath Port Talbot – recorded 78,048 (43.9%) and 20,698 (15.3%) Welsh speakers respectively.

### **Differences within Swansea**

- All communities have some form of cultural venue - from the local pub or club to the Liberty stadium - but the type of cultural activity will vary.
- There are differences between the opportunities available in rural and urban communities, and in how it is accessed. Many rural communities are self-sufficient or independent with strong community cohesion.
- There are cultural differences between Swansea's urban communities; the East side has retained the marching band tradition, and some centres (e.g. Gorseinon) still hold an annual street carnival. However, other parts of Swansea have lost these cultural traditions in recent decades.
- People in rural areas expect to travel further to attend opportunities whereas it would appear that urban communities are more reluctant to travel.
- The number of people able to speak Welsh (2011 Census) within each of Swansea's six community areas ranges from 7,823 (18.4%) in 'Llwchwr' and 6,957 (12.6%) in 'Cwm Tawe', to 2,426 (7.1%) in 'City' and 2,234 (7.5%) in 'Penderi'.
- The percentage of Welsh speakers by electoral ward in Swansea varies between 5.8% in Townhill (*10.5% with some Welsh skills*) and 38.3% in Mawr (*52.1%*).
- In terms of numbers, Pennard has the smallest number of Welsh speakers at 264 (*10.1%*) with Morriston at 1,931 (*11.8%*) the highest. Llansamlet and Pontarddulais also have over 1,900 people who can speak Welsh (2011 Census).
- The North and North-West of the authority are considered as traditionally more Welsh-speaking, but populations in some of these areas are relatively low.

### **Perceptions and perspectives**

- Survey evidence and other research around this driver will be further developed. For example, statutory cultural services (e.g. libraries, archives) carry out regular user and non-user surveys, providing a potentially useful resource.
- Public interest in retaining cultural services when they have been threatened (e.g. Pennard Library) has been high.
- A 2016 scrutiny inquiry looking into community action in Swansea found that more needs to be done to recognise the work of volunteers and community groups and the vital difference they make to their communities. More volunteers are needed if communities are going to take control of some community services and facilities.
- There is a perception that the public sector in Wales is English-centric. Positive action is required from public bodies to address this in line with the Welsh Language Standards.
- The relatively higher numbers but lower percentage of Welsh speakers in areas of higher population may mask cases of social isolation and lack of Welsh language service provision for individual Welsh speakers – particularly in comparison to those areas with a higher percentage and more conspicuous Welsh language presence.

### **Future prospects**

- Swansea's bid for UK City of Culture 2021 is a keystone of the cultural framework for the city and county; partnership working across the local authority, universities,

private sector and cultural participants will be vital to the bid and the regeneration of the city both culturally and economically.

- The commissioning of Council cultural services will mean that many community based venues and services will be available or operated by community groups.
- Services will continue to be supported by the Council whether by themselves or in partnership with external operators, be they commercial, charitable trust or community organisation. It is anticipated that community ownership of venues and cultural activities will have a positive effect on cultural participation.
- The cost of access to culture or sport will inevitably affect its take up in less affluent areas. Increased commercialisation could also result in a cessation of non-viable activities.
- Some activities can decline or increase with fashion (e.g. cricket and tennis)
- Voluntary groups rely on the commitment of those volunteers - without them groups will decline (e.g. local theatre groups). However, a strong community image or belief can be a great motivator.
- The increasing take-up of Welsh language education in schools would suggest that there is a pool of Welsh speakers who (after leaving school) will realise a projected future growth of Welsh language demand.

#### **What would improvement look like?**

- An increased profile for Swansea as a city of cultural and sporting importance both within Wales and the UK affirmed by Swansea's attainment of the UK City of Culture 2021.
- People having better outcomes from formal education because of links to culture and cultural opportunities.
- More and varied thriving community cultural groups.
- Improved physical and mental health outcomes for residents.
- Greater economic growth due to increased visitor spend in the city.
- City centre regeneration as an outcome of cultural development (e.g. fewer empty units, increased spending by investors).
- Decrease in unemployment and a rise in employment opportunities (i.e. the numbers of people supported by the tourism, cultural and creative economy).
- Increased income for the Council and its partners (reduced subsidy).
- Welsh speakers with the confidence to use Welsh in their daily life and dealings with public and private bodies and the expectation that they can receive a Welsh language service as a matter of course.

#### **About the evidence**

- The evidence currently included is mostly from established local sources (e.g. service usage data) and national sources (e.g. STEAM), and can vary in terms of coverage.
- There are Welsh Government national indicators related to aspects of cultural and community participation. Whilst these are yet to be formally published it may be possible to further explore some aspects of the existing survey data.
- Additional surveys or other evidence gathering may be necessary to more effectively capture well-being issues in relation to this driver.

- Data will be gathered and generated by the City of Culture bid and during the post bid/pre-launch period as the programme develops.
- The authority is working with Menter Iaith Abertawe to record Welsh language provision in both the public and private sector. This will provide a baseline against which to measure change, but also to help in identifying areas and sectors which may require support to improve provision.

## **Contacts for further information**

If you require any further information about Swansea's local assessment of well-being, the document and annexes are available at the web page [www.swansea.gov.uk/psb](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/psb)

Alternatively please contact Swansea Public Service Board via email at:

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