Corporate Plan Engagement – Summary Findings Report

Contents

What are we doing?

Following the election in May, the Council needs to produce a new Corporate and Strategic Equality Plan to help the residents of Powys achieve their well-being goals. To achieve our vision, we have set the objectives below that are the core aims of the plan:

- We will improve people's awareness of services, and how to access them, so that they can make informed choices.
- We will provide good quality, sustainable employment, and training opportunities, whilst pursuing real living wage employer accreditation.
- We will work to tackle poverty and inequality to support the well-being of the people of Powys.

Why are we doing it?

The overall aim is to use the feedback received to determine how well the new objectives have been received by the people of Powys and what may need to be changed so that we can ensure that there is a Corporate Plan that delivers for the people of Powys.

When did it happen?

The Corporate Plan Survey and Padlet board ran from Monday 28 November to Friday 23 December 2022.

How many people were involved?

In total, we had 614 responses during the engagement period, including:
- 452 survey responses
- 149 Padlet posts
- 8 social media comments
- 5 emails to haveyoursay@powys.gov.uk

Survey Responses

Please note: All survey responses are included together below (including the Welsh) for ease of analysis and not all questions were answered by all respondents. Any reference to names/addresses have been removed to comply with data protection. Any responses containing profanity and abusive language included in the open comments have been removed.

Recommendations

Analysis from the feedback provided has highlighted five key recommendations for Cabinet to consider, which if agreed, will be incorporated within the Corporate Plan:

R1	Strengthening the work being undertaking to support the Welsh Language, drawing links to workstreams such as the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy
R2	Including access to arts and cultural assets to be addressed more prominently within objective 1, "We will improve people's awareness of services, and how to access them, so that they can make informed choices"
R3	To further demonstrate the links between job creation and economic development within the Plan, and further strengthening objective 2, "We will provide good quality, sustainable employment, and training opportunities, whilst pursuing real living wage employer accreditation" to reflect this
R4	Many responses did not understand the roles and responsibilities of the Council and it's wider Partnership plans, which could be supported by a section detailing the most prominent partnerships, include the Public Service Board, Regional Partnership Board and Corporate Joint Committee

Part 1 - Demographic questions

Why did we want to know this?

Providing this information will help us to understand who has contributed towards this survey and help us ensure that we are providing services fairly to everyone who needs them.

Q1. Are you answering this survey as....?

Powys Resident/Business Owner	343
Member of Powys County Council staff	30
Both of the above	71
Prefer not to say	6

Q2. How do you define your gender?

Female	215
Male	218
Non-binary	1
Transgender	1
Prefer not to say	10
Other (please state if you wish to)	1

The respondent who selected 'other' defined their gender as: *Adult human female - not including "trans women"*

Q3. How old are you?

Under 16	0
16-24	7
25-34	33
35-44	64
45-54	90
55-64	129
65-74	94
75-84	16
Over 85	4
Prefer not to say	13

Q4. What is your sexual orientation?

Bisexual	16
Gay/Lesbian	17
Heterosexual/Straight	373
Prefer not to say	38
Other (please state if you wish to):	5

The respondents that selected 'other' included:
- Not relevant
- Asexual
- I believe that attraction is a complex physiological and psychological process that is unique between the individuals involved and not really quantifiable in tick box form.

Q5. What is your ethnic group? Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background.

Asian or Asian British: Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, Any other Asian background	2
Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British: African, Caribbean, Any other Black, African or Caribbean background	1
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, White and Asian, Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background	5
White: Welsh, English, Scottish, Northern Irish, or British, Irish, Gypsy, Roma or Irish Traveller, Any other White background	416
Prefer not to say	23
Other (please state if you wish to):	1

The respondent who selected 'other' described their ethnic group as: *EU Citizen*

Q6. What is the first half of your postcode? This will help us to understand which areas of Powys have taken part in the survey.

The following post codes were given in response to this question:

HR3	18	**SA4**	1
HR5	1	**SA9**	12
LD1	79	**SA10**	1
LD2	20	**SY5**	3
LD3	46	**SY10**	7
LD4	3	**SY15**	10
LD5	2	**SY16**	33
LD6	11	**SY17**	15
LD7	14	**SY18**	44
LD8	18	**SY19**	5
NP4	1	**SY20**	9
NP8	23	**SY21**	46
SA	1	**SY22**	19

Q7. How many people live in your household?

1	65
2	207
3	71
4	70
5+	32
Prefer not to say	5

Q8. Do you own or rent your accommodation?

Owned outright	239
Being bought on mortgage	135
Rent from local authority	13
Rent from housing association	8
Rent from private landlord	41
Prefer not to say	9
Other (please state if you wish to):	6

The respondents that selected 'other' included:
- Live with family - can't move out because of rents
- Family-owned home.
- Loan stockholder in co-housing co-operative (large old house split into 7 self-contained flats)
- The house is owned by a Trust, and I live here as manager and teacher for the Trust.
- Live with parents

Part 2 - Corporate Plan Objective questions

Q9. What does a "Stronger, Fairer, Greener" Powys mean to you?

This question had 426 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

*(mentioned more than 12 times and not including 'Stronger', 'Fairer', 'Greener' or 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix A

We want to set clear objectives and a work programme to achieve our ambition. Below are our new objectives:

- We will improve people's awareness of services, and how to access them, so that they can make informed choices.
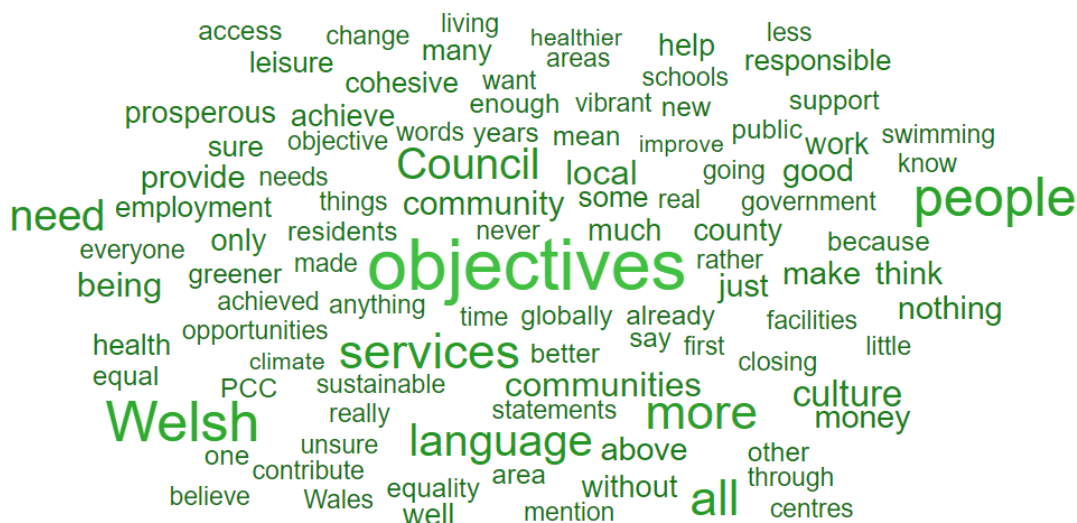
- We will provide good quality, sustainable employment, and training opportunities, whilst pursuing real living wage employer accreditation.
- We will work to tackle poverty and inequality to support the well-being of the people of Powys.

Q10. Do you think our new objectives with contribute to:

	Yes	No	Unsure
A prosperous Powys	164	103	176
A resilient Powys	181	108	156
A healthier Powys	175	124	143
A more equal Powys	180	127	136
A Powys of cohesive communities	121	138	184
A Powys of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	69	159	213
A globally responsible Powys	128	138	176

Q11. If you have answered No/Unsure please explain more:

This question had 358 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

(mentioned more than 12 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix B

Q12. Do you have any suggestions of what could help us achieve our objectives? Perhaps you know of another organisation doing great work linked to our objectives that we could learn from, for example an organisation helping people access the services they need?

This question had 295 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

(mentioned more than 18 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C

Q13. Is there anything that could limit or prevent us in achieving our objectives? For example is there something you think we should be doing differently?

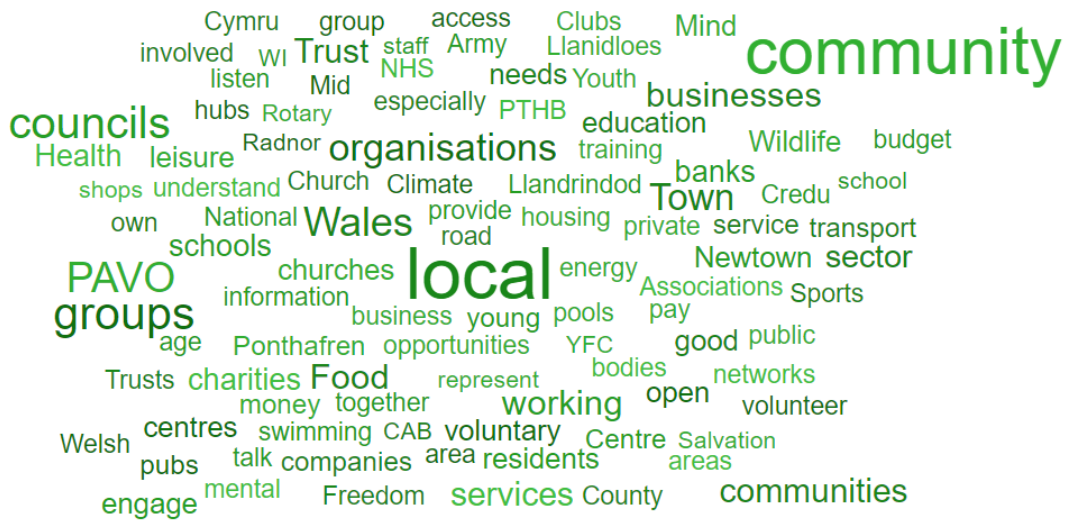This question had 337 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

(mentioned more than 8 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix D

Q14. To achieve our objectives, we will be working with lots of partners across public and private sector and local communities. Let us know of any groups/organisations you think we should be working with (for example local charities/businesses/ organisations)

This question had 216 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:
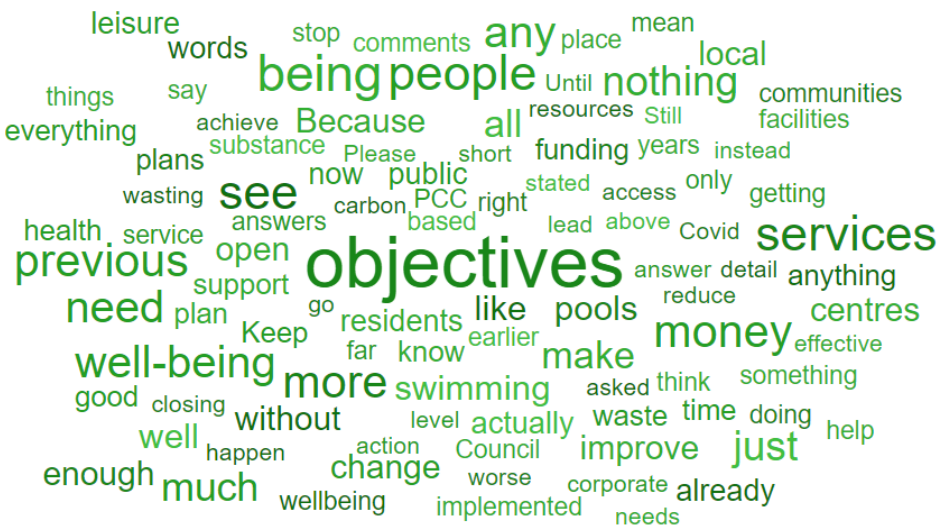

*(mentioned more than 8 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix E

Q15. To what extent do you agree that these new objectives will improve well-being in Powys?

Strongly agree	43
Agree	117
Neutral	167
Disagree	64
Strongly disagree	54

Q16. If you have answered Disagree/Strongly disagree please explain more:

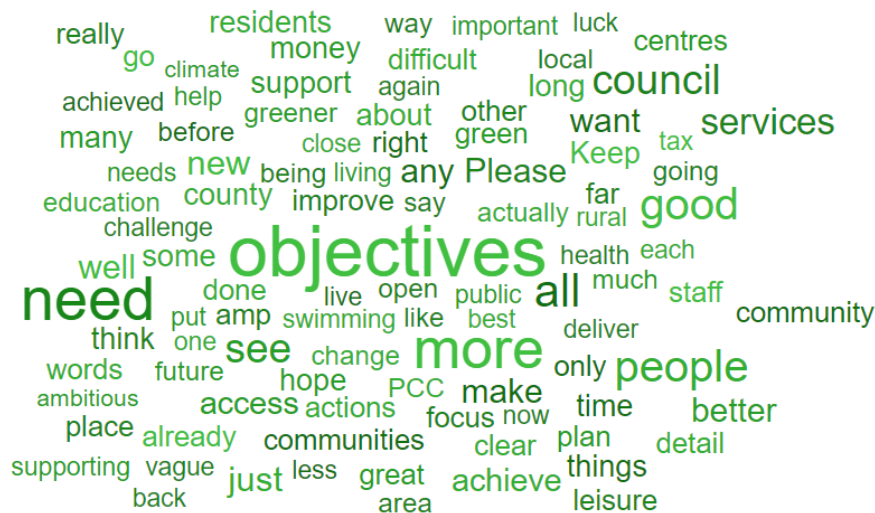This question had 130 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

(mentioned more than 4 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix F

Part 3 – Closing questions

Q17. Do you have any other comments about our new objectives?

This question had 215 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

(mentioned more than 5 times and not including 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix G

Q18. Would you like us to get in touch with you to discuss this survey in more detail?

Yes	95
No	346

Q19. If yes, please tell us your email address/phone number and we will be in touch:

This question had 93 responses; the contact details are not included in this report for data protection but have been shared with the lead officer working on the corporate plan.

Before you go…

A couple of questions about the Welsh language.

Q20. Can you…?

	Fluently	Well	Fairly well	A little	Not at all	Prefer not to say
Understand spoken Welsh	21	12	35	192	163	19
Speak Welsh	22	7	21	180	189	17
Read Welsh	20	6	33	159	200	19
Write Welsh	15	6	26	118	242	20

Q21. Do you have any concerns or evidence to suggest that the council is treating/using the Welsh language less favourably than English?

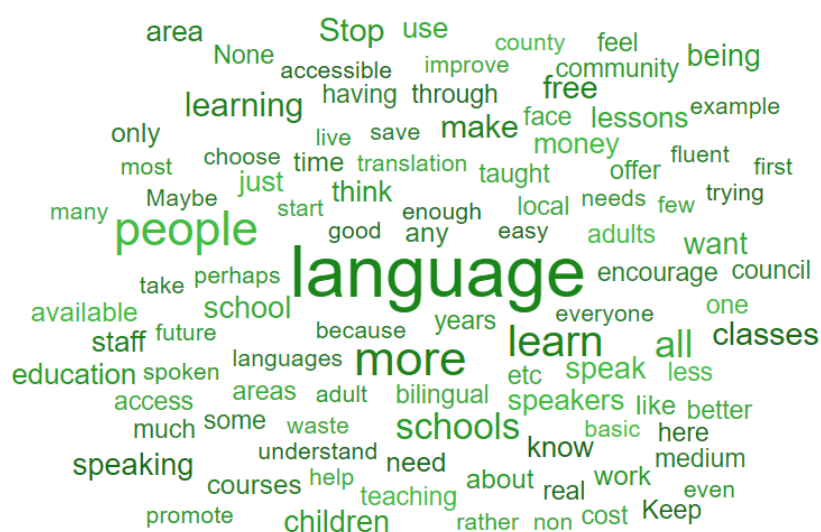| Yes	31
No	318
I don't know	86

Q22. If yes, please give details:

This question had 28 responses, including four comments asking if this survey was available in Welsh. The survey and all associated (internal and external) communications were produced and promoted bilingually. Other responses included:

- We don't give the Welsh language equal status. It's a sad fact we live in an area where English is the predominate language and whilst I would love to see the Welsh language thrive in the workplace, that's many years away.
- Local schools becoming purely Welsh language only is discriminant and does not reflect local demographic
- Not directly the council, but signs in doctors' surgeries and local hospitals should be improved.
- ATMs should be in both languages, the ones in supermarkets are not.
- There are not enough free ways to learn Welsh or communicated benefits of investing in it. Not enough role models, not enough of a sense of identity or sense of social responsibility or history / cultural roots to drive an interest in Welsh.
- There are not enough Welsh schools in the county.

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix H and will be shared with our Welsh Language Officer to review.

Q23. What changes could be made so as to have a more positive effect on the Welsh language?

This question had 226 responses, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

*(mentioned more than 8 times and not including 'Welsh', 'English, 'Wales' and 'Powys')

Full verbatim responses can be found in Appendix I and will be shared with our Welsh Language Officer to review.

Padlet comments

To encourage wider engagement, online 'Padlet' boards were produced in English and Welsh and promoted internally and externally along with the survey.

The Padlet asked one question **What does a "Stronger, Fairer, Greener" Powys mean to you?**

There were 150 posts shared via the Padlet board, the top 100 words* mentioned in the open comments included:

*(mentioned more than 8 times and not including 'Stronger', 'Fairer', 'Greener' or 'Powys')

Full verbatim (read-only) responses can be found at: https://padlet.com/haveyoursaypowys/CIP