

**Title: ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ Update Paper**

Paper sponsor:

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Meeting date: 14th December 2023

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| **1** | **Purpose of Report** |
| 1.0 | The purpose of this paper is to provide an update to Gwent Public Services Board on activities relating to ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’. |
| **2** | **Background** |
| 2.0 | Gwent Public Services Board received the report ‘Building a Fairer Gwent: Improving Health Equity and the Social Determinants’ at its meeting on the 20th July 2023. The report highlighted how levels of social, environmental, and economic inequity in Gwent are damaging wealth, health and wellbeing. The report contained a series of recommendations framed through the eight Marmot principles to address inequity in areas such as early years, education, housing and employment. A full copy of the report is available on the Gwent Public Services Board website at: <https://www.gwentpsb.org/en/gwent-marmot-region/building-a-fairer-gwent-the-report/> . |
| **3** | **Public Services Board Update** |
| 3.0  3.1  3.2  3.3  3.4 | **Presentations**  There has been significant interest in the work of Gwent Public Services Board since the report was published in July. An invitation to speak about inequity at the Welsh Local Government Association Annual Conference in Llandudno on the 14th September was taken up by the Institute of Health Equity. Llais, the independent statutory body for public representation in health and social care requested a presentation on the 12th October. Presentations were also given to the NHS Wales Health Inequalities group on the 13th November, and to Gwent Public Services Board Scrutiny Committee on the 29th November. Further requests for presentations at future events in the new year have been received from Bangor University and the Public Health Network Cymru.    **Leaders Launch Event**  On the 31st October, a launch event was held to publicise the findings of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ and to galvanise partners around the issue of inequity and social justice. Around 100 delegates attended from regional partnerships and regional partner organisations, as well as from Welsh Government. Key messages from the event were the need involve citizens and business in discussions about what inequity means and what the response should be, as well as better sharing of positive work that is happening across the region. Next steps are to align the recommendations in ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ to the four ‘at scale’ areas of focus selected by Gwent Public Services Board, as well as ensuring that local delivery plans are informed by the recommendations more broadly.  **Imagining our Healthy Future**  One of the areas identified at the leaders event was the need to engage more with citizens on the issue of inequity and social justice. It is acknowledged that the citizen voice made a limited contribution in the production of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’. To take this forward, work is being undertaken aligned to the Arts Council of Wales Arts, Health and Wellbeing National Lottery Arts Funding Programme <https://arts.wales/funding/organisations/arts-health-and-wellbeing>. Between now and March 2024, the intention is to commission a creative programme of engagement work delivered by arts organisations in Gwent to share the findings of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ with citizens and understand their visions for a healthy, equitable future. If the initial pilot work is successful, a funding bid will be submitted to the Arts Council of Wales for investment to widen the conversation across the region in 2024/25 using a creative arts approach.  **Gwent Marmot Programme Leadership Group & Gwent Marmot Programme Officers**  In June 2022, Gwent Public Services Board approved the setting up of a Gwent Marmot Region Programme Leadership Group to provide leadership and partnership coordination to implementing the Marmot region programme. Since this date, the Leadership Group has, on behalf of the Public Services Board, coordinated and led the work of the Institute of Health Equity, culminating in the publication of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’ in July 2023. Now that the report is published, and taking forward the recommendations is a step in the Well-being Plan, the group has been stood down to allow implementation to be part of wider Well-being Plan delivery arrangements.  During the course of development of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’, three fixed term posts were funded by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to work with the Institute of Health Equity and help establish the Gwent Marmot Region programme. These posts were for a year and came to an end between August and September 2023. Going forwards, implementation of the report will be aligned to the Well-being Plan delivery arrangements. |
| **4** | **Recommendation to the PSB** |
| 4.0 | Gwent Public Services Board is asked to **NOTE** and **DISCUSS** the content of this update on the work of ‘Building a Fairer Gwent’. |