The Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act: a whole-of-government whole-of-society roadmap for a healthier, resilient, prosperous and more equal Wales

Dr Mariana Dyakova, MD, MPH, PhD, FFPH
Policy, Research and International Development, Public Health Wales
marians.dyakova@wales.nhs.uk
Doing business as usual is unsustainable with high costs...

- Global risks and threats\(^1,2\)

*250,000 deaths globally by 2030?*

- Economic, societal and environmental burden of ill health and inequity

*Total cost of health care will double by 2050\(^3\)*

- WHO European Region challenges
The challenges for Wales

40% 
At the UK level, the number of people aged 65+ is projected to rise by over 40% in the next 17 years to over 16 million.

65% 
65% of children entering school today will end up working in new job types that don’t exist yet.

78% 
...in Upper Cwmbran 78% of 0-4 year olds live in income deprived households.

11th highest inequality 
Out of 27 countries

18th highest inequality

Health inequalities amongst young people in Wales are one of the highest in Europe

Cost to society and the economy

If obesity rates continue to rise, the cost to society and the economy in Wales could reach

£2.4 billion by 2050

Estimated costs of health inequalities to the Welsh economy

Greater socioeconomic inequality = Poorer economic growth

£1.8 - £1.9 billion productivity losses per year
£1.1 - £1.8 billion lost taxes and welfare costs per year
Ensuring the well-being of current and future generations

Sustainable solutions

Accelerate the momentum vs Balance
Immediate - Long-term
Economic growth – Equity
Evidence – Innovation
Identity - Globalisation
Individual – Community – Society – State
Effective – Cost-effective – ROI – SROI

Challenges
Ensuring the well-being of current and future generations

A Roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Health 2020, the European policy for health and well-being

WHO HEN Reports 51 & 52

Ostrava  Paris  Tallinn
Investment for health and well-being - a driver and an enabler of sustainable development

Hamelmann, Dyakova, 2017
Wales’ transformative approach

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

long-term view prevention integration collaboration involvement

Y GYMRU A GAREM
THE WALES WE WANT

A globally responsible Wales
A prosperous Wales
A resilient Wales
A healthier Wales
A more equal Wales
A Wales of cohesive communities
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Well-being Goal</th>
<th>Description of the goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A prosperous Wales</strong></td>
<td>An <em>innovative, productive and low carbon</em> society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore <em>uses resources efficiently</em> and proportionately (including acting on <em>climate change</em>); and which develops a skilled and <em>well-educated population</em> in an economy which generates <em>wealth</em> and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing <em>decent work</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A resilient Wales</strong></td>
<td>A nation which maintains and enhances a <em>bio-diverse</em> natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support <em>social, economic and ecological resilience</em> and the <em>capacity to adapt</em> to change (for example climate change).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A healthier Wales</strong></td>
<td>A society in which people’s <em>physical and mental well-being</em> is maximised and in which <em>choices and behaviours that benefit future health</em> are understood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A more equal Wales</strong></td>
<td>A society that enables people to <em>fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</em> (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Wales of cohesive communities</strong></td>
<td>Attractive, viable, <em>safe and well-connected communities</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</strong></td>
<td>A society that promotes and protects <em>culture, heritage and the Welsh language</em>, and which encourages people to participate in the <em>arts, and sports and recreation</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A globally responsible Wales</strong></td>
<td>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 <em>positive contribution to global well-being</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From commitment to action
Enabling cross-sector participatory governance for health
Comprehensive whole-of-government approach

- Prosperity for All: the National Strategy
- Public Health Act 2017 – HIA!
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013
From commitment to action
Enabling cross-sector participatory governance for health
Participatory whole-of-society approach

• Cross-sector multi-agency governance and action for health
  – Public Service Boards
  – Wellbeing Assessment, Statement and Objectives
  – Future Generations Commissioner for Wales

• Stakeholder and public engagement

Cymru Well Wales
Health and housing
Health and the environment

Health and Sustainability Hub
Health and criminal justice
Health and sports
From commitment to action
Making a Difference through prevention...

Investing in public health drives social, economic and environmental sustainability
From commitment to action
Taking a life course approach...
Leaving no child behind

Early childhood experiences, including before birth, can have a lifelong impact
From commitment to action
Globally responsible Wales...
From commitment to action
Monitoring and accountability...
From commitment to action
Monitoring and accountability...

National indicators for Wales (examples)

2. Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived.
3. Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours
4. Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) pollution in the air.
6. Measurement of development of young children
17. Gender pay difference.
29. Mean mental well-being score for people.
30. Percentage of people who are lonely.
31. Percentage of dwellings which are free from hazards
41. Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales.
46. The social return on investment of Welsh partnerships within Wales and outside of the UK that are working towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
“... What Wales is doing today the world will do tomorrow. Action, more than words, is the hope for our current and future generations.”
Nikil Seth, Director of Sustainable Development, United Nations, 2015

Thank you!
References


