



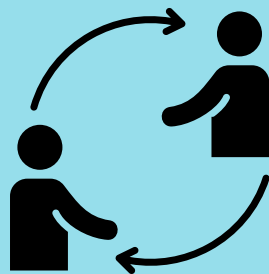
Llunio Lleoedd
ar gyfer Llesiant yng Nghymru
Shaping Places
for Well-being in Wales

About the programme

Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales supports Public Services Boards to use systems thinking to improve well-being. It seeks to learn from the approach and share the learning.

Systems thinking takes a joined-up approach to complex challenges to make better decisions.

The programme runs from June 2024 to September 2026.
Click [here](#) for further details.



Activities



- Co-designed programme with partners
- Set up a national learning group for Public Services Boards' members and officers
- Held 16 workshops and 7 practice groups
- Supported learning group members to apply systems thinking tools and methods within their work
- Taken an adaptive approach, learning from evaluation and iterating as we go
- Co-developed the 'National Strengthening Public Services Boards progress group'

Learning so far



Systems thinking is a way to apply the five ways of working of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Public Services Boards and officers can use systems thinking tools and methods to prioritise where to act.

Timing is important. Designing systems thinking into well-being assessments and plans ensures systems thinking is used in sub-groups and activities

Good learning across Public Services Boards is practical, purposeful, and closely connected to real-world work.

Learning environments need to be psychologically safe for participants to engage in honest conversations. This is aided by skilled facilitation, small-group discussions, clarity of purpose, and timely follow-ups to encourage action.



Culture and relationships

Systems change takes time and often requires changes in mindsets, cultures and relationships.

Thinking and working differently requires resilience and having a network, or allies, around can help increase comfort of using unfamiliar approaches.

Shaping Places for Well-being in Wales and other programmes have identified that some of the ways Public Services Boards work do not always support innovative ways of thinking and working.



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Case Studies

The following case studies highlight the impact, learning, and real-world application of the programme in practice.

Context Mapping

Applying **Context Mapping** to support a **regional approach** to Access to Food using a participatory approach involving Public Services Boards and partners.



System Mapping

Applying **Systems Mapping** to explore **interconnections** between complex challenges, involving multiple partners across Swansea Public Services Board.



Viable System Model

Viable System Model was used at a **national workshop** to identify improvements in Public Services Board ways of working to support delivery and impact.



Video Case Study

Learn how one of our learning group members is **applying the tools and methods** across Gwent Public Services Board.

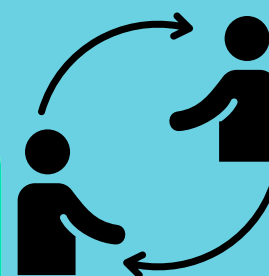


Learning from other Shaping Places programmes suggests using systems thinking approaches can support local partnerships to create positive change in local communities.

What is next?

The final learning group workshop will be held in September 2026.

The programme team are continuing bespoke support, continuing to support delivery of Strengthening Public Services Board Group's action plan, producing a contribution story evaluation report and sharing the learning.



What can you do?

- Find out more about systems thinking in practice through our website and programme resources.
- Give permission and create conditions to apply innovative ways of working.
- Use systems thinking tools to move from information (e.g. well-being assessments) to action (strategy and plans).
- Get in touch with the programme team.