

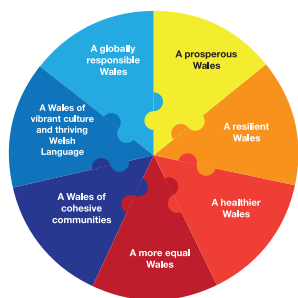
How to deliver the Well-being of Future Generations Act

Findings from a literature review funded by Public Health Wales*



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The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places clear legal duties on public bodies to strive for a sustainable Wales.



Sustainable Development Principle

Implementation of the Act is based around the five ways of working, collectively known as the Sustainable Development Principle.



Long Term

- Recognise the need to apply thinking that is more long term than current policy frameworks
- Sustain motivation for long-term goals by understanding trends and linking them to relevant short-term targets

Example: The International Futures Forum's '*three horizons model*' breaks up planning into three phases: now, short-term and long-term.



Prevention

- Undertake impact assessments to identify root causes of problems and take decisions/allocate resources to contribute to better long-term outcomes
- Take a strengths-based approach where solutions are holistic and require a cross-sectoral, people-centred response

Example: Leeds Beckett University is working with local authorities to explore what a holistic approach might look like. You can sign up to the *community of learning* to find out more.



Integration

- Help staff to understand how work can be integrated across teams, departments and with other sectors to contribute to both organisational and legislative ambition
- Shared information, governance, structures and processes should support integration

Example: Empower well-being champions who can share and communicate in wide spheres of influence.



Collaboration

- Work together to pool resources and ideas, in order to avoid replication and enhance efficiency
- Support leadership and encourage action which builds mature partnerships with mutual benefits for all

Example: A *multidisciplinary health system* in Alaska established a 'customer owner' relationship between the community and care providers with positive attendance and treatment results.



Involvement

- Recognise and remove barriers to involving communities and employees in shaping sustainable public services
- Reach out to marginalised groups such as ethnic minorities, youth and the elderly

Example: The *Dutch Buurtzorg* neighbourhood care scheme involves patients and staff to identify, implement and communicate improvements.

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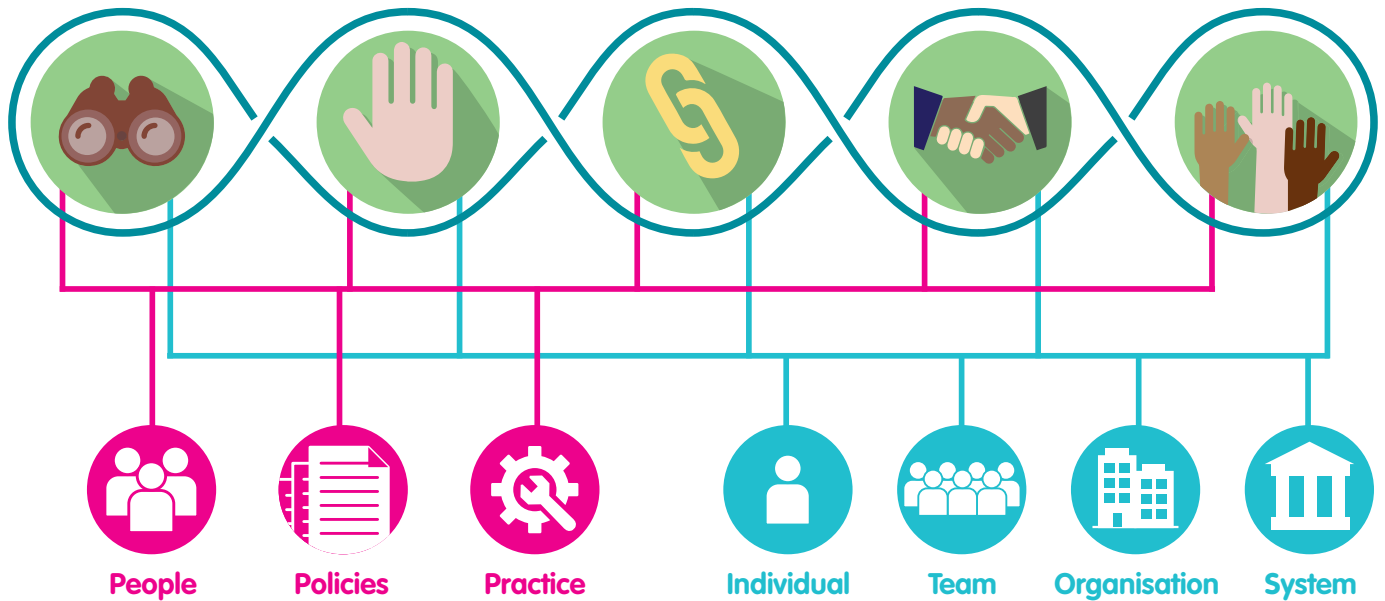


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Recommendations for implementing the five ways of working

1. The five ways of working are mutually reinforcing so start where you feel comfortable: there is no prescribed order to follow and they are **interlinked**.



2. Ensure the five ways of working are visibly integrated in all activity targeted at **people**, **policies** and **practice**: make sure the sustainable development principle is visible in all organisational documents.

3. Support the five ways of working at operational levels: **individual**, **team**, **organisation** and **system**. Use the Act to enable innovative, immediate and ongoing learning and development opportunities to promote change in behaviours and culture.

4. Encourage the development of new norms and rules. Create 'new stories' about what constitutes short-term success and how that links to long-term impact.



Wales has taken the bold step to legislate for the needs of future generations. This approach can be used by countries anywhere in the world to work towards a sustainable future and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



5. Embrace the Act as a game-changer: find ways to encourage and recognise those adopting the ways of working on a daily basis, motivating others to do the same.

Want to learn more?

Contact the Health and Sustainability Hub:

publichealth.sustainability@wales.nhs.uk

