

Please do not hesitate to get in touch and let me know if you have anything you would like to include in upcoming e-bulletins.

Harriet Bleach, Green and Safe Engagement Officer

Green and Safe Spaces Vision



The Green and Safe Spaces theme and vision was developed through Newport's Wellbeing Assessment. The full details can be found in the [Local Wellbeing Plan 2018 – 2023](#).

'Newport is a greener, healthier and safer place where all communities have easy access to quality greenspace for health, play and recreation.'

I would be keen to hear your views on the Green and Safe vision. Do you agree the vision continues to outline what we are trying to achieve? [I would be really grateful if you could complete this short two minute survey.](#)

Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts.

The latest on Green and Safe projects across Newport

Undoubtedly, there are many more projects happening around Newport, and I would love to hear from you to include them in the upcoming e-bulletins. Here are updates from just a few.



Barracks Wood

Pobl Housing, Newport Council, Gwent Police, Natural Resources Wales, Fly-tipping Action Wales and local residents have joined together in an exciting project to enhance the Barracks Wood area.

Newport Council are part-way through a project to enhance the area for nature recovery. This will benefit people, as well as nature and wildlife. With improvements to the footpaths

and active conservation management, there will be access to high-quality, natural green space, which in turn improves and supports the health and wellbeing of locals and visitors.

Removal of fly-tipped waste began last year by Newport Council's Canal and Countryside Group. However it became apparent that more work is needed to prevent it reoccurring.

Each of the organisations have put their heads together to take forward a series of actions to get to the root of the fly-tipping problem at the site. Next steps include exploring options to enhance the green space further, like planting a wildflower meadow.



Maindee Unlimited – Greening Maindee

Amongst many other projects that Maindee Unlimited have in the pipeline, here is an update on Maindee Triangle on Chepstow Road.

Funding has now been awarded for this fantastic new project to transform the land of a former (council owned) toilet block. Proposals have been drawn up for a café and vibrant community space

with attractive outdoor area that includes a zone for performances, climbing wall, attractive planting areas and seating. The site had fallen into disrepair in recent years and has suffered from general neglect, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour.

The project is underpinned by strong themes of sustainability and plans include the installation of a rainwater harvesting system, green roof bike shelter and pollinator friendly planting. It is hoped that the project will draw visitors to the neighbourhood and help kick-start a process of regeneration of the high street. Watch this space!



Branch Out

Every Thursday
via Zoom
4-5pm

Branch Out

Changing Minds

Are you aged between 13-25 living in Wales and wanting help and support to stay active outdoors and in nature during the national coronavirus 'firebreak'? Then why not join our weekly Zoom group to meet other like minded young people and help build your own outdoor self care toolkit with different themes, topics and tasks

 Newport
Casnewydd

 Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol
National Trust

Newport Mind are offering an opportunity for young people in Wales to get together online and build resilience skills through nature-based discussions and activities.

This is a new project set up by Newport Mind in collaboration with, and based at the National Trust's Tredegar House, funded by the Healthy Active Fund (Sport Wales).

Branch Out is for young people aged 13-25 and aims to improve mental and physical health and well-being through increased connection with nature, and by making a contribution to a local green space within a social and supportive environment.

For more information please contact: changingminds@newportmind.org or call 01633 258741.

Portland Street Allotment Site, Pillgwenlly

The once overgrown allotments have now been cleared, ready for exciting new changes. Plans include new fencing, a new accessible path, a steel container for a community space and storage, and the creation of a multi-use space including eight allotment plots, opportunities for community food growing, and outdoor learning.

Several groups have contributed to shaping this exciting project to transform the site into a thriving, green, outdoor community space. There has been fantastic continued support from Central Hub, Pill Unity, Local Housing Associations (Pobl, Newport City Homes and Melin Homes), Fusion Culture & Arts, Flying Start, DP Mowers, Keep Wales Tidy, Newport Yemeni Community Association, Exclusive Landscapes, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, Siemens and local residents. Without the support of all these partners this project would not be possible. Proposals for the space include:

Community Education Centre

Plot 1 will house a steel container converted to an office/ storage space where delivery of community accreditation such as Basic Food Hygiene, Plant to Plate and First Aid can take place. Employment support for residents can be offered through the Communities for Work Employment mentors, who can also offer volunteering opportunities as a stepping stone into employment. This space will also be for wellbeing workshops, mentoring for local mental health groups and local primary schools for outdoor learning.

Plots 3, 5 and 6 are for growing fruit and vegetables by local residents and community groups.

There are plans for a mural of local places of interest in Pill, linking with the Newport Fusion cultural heritage coordinator. The design process we would like to open up to local primary schools.

Community Garden

The garden on plots 7 and 8 will be used by local primary schools along with Flying Start as a forest school space. We will have a sensory garden for disabled school children along with a bug hotel, raised planters, planting area for school groups, communal BBQ area, sheltered log circle and benches for allotment users to enjoy

the garden. We have been successful in application with Keep Wales Tidy to provide resources and expert knowledge in developing this community garden space. They are also providing support to establish sustainability of the site with the goal of achieving green flag status.

Just outside the community garden, six apple trees will be planted with Keep Wales Tidy. This orchard area will be a quiet space with benches for residents to sit and be at one with nature. We are in discussions to have a memorial within the orchard to recognise those loved ones that have been lost to covid-19 from the Pill community.

One Newport Public Services Board (PSB) Wellbeing Plan Annual Report 2019-2020



Here is the second Annual Report of [Newport's Local Well-being Plan 2018-23](#), covering the work of the PSB partnership during the period of April 2019 to March 2020.

This overview provides the opportunity for the Public Services Board to review progress against each of the four wellbeing objectives by identifying areas of good practice.

With the impact of Covid-19 and its effect on Public Service Board members having to shift focus to respond to the pandemic, the PSB agreed to delay publication until October 2020.

Click on either of the following links to view the 2019-20 report. In it there are lots of examples relating to Green and Safe spaces, including: Lysaght Community Garden, City Centre Greening, Maindee Unlimited, Bee Friendly City, and St Woolos Community Garden.

- [Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23 – Annual Report 2019-20 \(pdf\)](#)
- [Newport's Well-being Plan 2018-23 – Annual Report 2019-20 \(Microsoft Sway\)](#)

The PSB would like to thank the many partners and individual citizens who have worked hard to make our plan a success and continue to do so, in spite of these difficult times.

For further information, visit the Newport Council [performance reporting page](#).

Promoting a Green Recovery – Natural Resources Wales



Although it has been a difficult year and Covid-19 continues to bring a level of uncertainty to all that we do, the natural environment has been a tireless provision of space, solace and stability throughout the health crisis. Natural Resources Wales is committed to helping deliver a green recovery but also to supporting solutions with social justice at their core; building back an environmentally, economically and socially resilient Gwent.

Natural Resources Wales Chair, Sir David Henshaw, has been appointed to lead the Welsh Government's Green Recovery Task Force, and Natural Resources Wales will embed this thinking

in its work as an organisation – ensuring that Wales emerges from this difficult period stronger, greener and fairer.

Sir David is joined on the panel by the Future Generations Commissioner, along with senior representatives from business, environmental non-governmental organisations (eNGOs), the farming and third sector and local government, to inform long-term proposals on:

- Carbon emission and climate risk

- Reversing the decline in biodiversity
- Connecting people and nature through investments in green infrastructure

Further information can be found [here](#).

Funding



Natural Resources Wales

Natural Resources Wales has grant funding opportunities for individuals and organisations delivering Green and Safe actions. We are also keen to work collaboratively to make best use of funding opportunities from other sources, so please talk to us to find out more.

Supporting Environmental Non-governmental organisations (eNGOs)

In response to the growing strain on the environmental sector from Covid-19, [NRW has given grant-in-aid](#); helping to ensure safe access to land owned and managed by eNGOs. Through this scheme, the Woodland Trust, National Trust, Wildlife Trust, RSPB and Plantlife will receive funds to put towards enabling safe access for the public to nature sites in light of Covid-19 and to maximising opportunities for communities to connect with nature conservation sites.

The Local Places for Nature Capital Fund

A programme of **£2.3million**, jointly funded by the Welsh Government and National Heritage Lottery Fund.

- Offering grants of £10,000 to £50,000 (in 2020-21) for capital projects in Wales that will acquire, restore and enhance nature.
- Of particular interest are projects that can be seen 'from your doorstep', i.e. where people live, work, access public services, travel, including roadside verges, roundabouts and public open spaces.
- The grant programme will remain open until funds are exhausted.
- Further details can be found [here](#)

The National Forest Community Woodland Grant Fund

A £2.1million Community Woodlands capital grant scheme intended to restore, create, connect and manage woodlands in Wales, jointly funded by the Welsh Government and National Heritage Lottery Fund.

- Offering grants of £10,000 to £250,000 for capital projects that will restore, enhance and in some instances acquire land to create new community woodlands in Wales.
- Applications are open until **21 October 2021**
- Further details can be found [here](#).

What's next for Green and Safe?



At the first workshop in 2019 we brought together our ideas to create a Green and Safe spaces offer and action plan. I now hope to work with you over the coming months to take a moment to refresh some of the actions - ensuring they are current and take into consideration the challenges of this year.

As we look to continue expanding the network and as things remain online

for the time being, regular e-bulletins, virtual meetings and workshops and a communications plan are all in the pipeline. I'm also here to help promote your projects any time, so please do send them my way. Look forward to catching up with you all soon.

For more information contact Harriet Bleach

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Natural Resources Wales

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