
Suzy Richards and Richard Davies
16 May 2018
Who are we?

- **Suzy Richards** - Sustainable Policy Officer
- **Richard Davies** – Local Area Co-ordinator
- **Ronan Ruddy** – Local Area Co-ordinator
A brief history of

- Based on model implemented 30 years ago in Western Australia.
- The basic philosophy
- First Welsh project began in Swansea in 2015.
Instead of asking

“What services and money do people need?”

Local Area Coordination is asking:

“What makes a good life for each person and what are the different ways we can get there?”
The WFG Act in Action

The Well-being of Future Generations Act

Swansea Local Area Coordination

Cyngor Abertawe Swansea Council
A symbiotic relationship

Sustainable development (key duty of the WFG Act)

Local Area Coordination
WFG Act’s Roots in Swansea

2006
- The Council adopts first sustainable development policy, recognising sustainable development as the Local Authority’s central organising principle.

2011
- WLGA Model Local Authority for Wales – Swansea is supported to invest in projects which act as a pilot for Wales and directly inform the evolution of the WFG Act.

2014
- The Well-being of Future Generations Bill is launched in Swansea at Vetch Veg
- The City and County of Swansea is an early adopter of the Well-being of Future Generations Act

2015
- Enillydd y Wobr ar gyfer y Sector Cyhoeddus Mwyaf Cynaliadwy
  Most Sustainable Public Sector Platinum Award Winner

- Gwobrau Cynaladwyedd Sector Cyhoeddus y DU 2015
  Cynnal Cymru Sustain Wales Awards 2015

- Enillydd y Wobr ar gyfer
  Winner of the Sustainable Public Sector Award

- Gwobrau Cynnal Cymru 2015
  Sustain Wales Awards 2015
Creating the Conditions for LAC

Sustainability training for leaders

Decision-making that takes account of sustainable development

Strong advocacy for sustainability

The acknowledgement that ‘Doing what we’ve always done won’t work in the future’

A focus on innovation and doing things differently

A new approach to risk

Sustainable development changes the culture, behaviours, decision making and thinking of organisations.

Swansea was a fertile environment for LAC to thrive.
The WFG Act is an enabler.

It creates an integrated operating environment that enables the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act within and beyond social services!

Projects like Local Area Coordination meet the requirements of the SSW Act but need to draw on the whole of ‘Team Swansea’ to succeed. The WFG Act improves the ways we work together.
The five ways of working
Collaboration

• The Local Area Coordination model relies on collaboration with other partners, agencies and local people to work.

• Coordinators work alongside and in partnership with agencies and communities to support individuals - they facilitate collaborative local projects and events.

• The LAC Leadership Group comprises representatives from Health, Social Services, the Police, Welsh Ambulance, Housing Associations and the Third Sector working in partnership to shape development and delivery in Swansea.
Integration

Local Area Coordination fits with both WFG and SSWBA by..........................

• Giving people Voice & Control
• Focussing on prevention and early intervention
• Supporting people to achieve their own wellbeing
• Involving local people through co-production.

Isolation and loneliness are societal problems identified universally. Local Area Coordination specifically works to address these issues.
Involvement

Co-productive recruitment - recruitment for Local Area Coordinators involves the local community.

LAC’s then work to support people to…………

• have a **voice**, **choice** and more **control**

• exercise greater **control over services** that they may receive, and where there are multiple agencies involved in peoples’ lives enable them to work together

• get the **confidence** to **contribute**

Current service delivery models turn people into passive recipients - without the opportunity to contribute- either to their own care or that of others – despite fact that they may have lots to offer.
Prevention

....this is the primary goal for Local Area Coordination.
Currently, we wait for people to fall into crisis and respond with services (if eligible), but with fewer services now available to help.
We have made it harder for people to get services through tightening eligibility - risking bigger and more expensive crises in the future.
Local Area Coordination is about:
helping people, families and communities to build resilience further back from the cliff edge - staying strong.
Long term

….working “at the speed of trust”

helping to build relationships that are natural and sustainable…. 
Contribution to each of the Well-being Goals

Potential for small, indirect actions to add up!
WFG Act – A key that increasingly turns levers unlocking opportunities
Any Questions?
Thank you

For more information:

• Swansea’s Local Area Coordination page:
  http://www.swansea.gov.uk/localareacoordination

• National Local Area Coordination Network:
  http://lacnetwork.org/

• Sustainable.development@Swansea.gov.uk
  www.swansea.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment

• www.Swansea.gov.uk/localwell-being