

Deliver change for the better for everyone in Wales now and in the future, and to be an open, innovative and progressive national library

Well-being Statement 2021 - 2026



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

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales and tackling any barriers that would prevent us from achieving the Act's main aim. The Act requires the Library to think about the long-term effects of its decisions and work better together, both within the Library and externally, in order to look to prevent and eradicate unacceptable elements in your society, such as poverty, inequality, ill-health and climate change. The Act encourages us to take a more joined-up approach, to create a Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future.

To make sure that public bodies like the Library are travelling together in the same direction, the Act puts in place seven well-being goals (please see the circle above). This statement identifies how the Library intends to contribute to achieving those goals and making a positive, lasting difference not only to the current generation, but also to future generations. It also explains how our well-being objectives were developed and agreed.

In line with its Strategic Plan, the National Library of Wales' vision is to:

### **Deliver change for the better for everyone in Wales now and in the future, and to be an open, innovative and progressive national library**

Our vision of making our culture and heritage accessible to all to learn, research and enjoy, was developed within the framework of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and was formed from the knowledge gained from engagement and consultation with Trustees, staff, volunteers and our stakeholders.

We will take advantage of all opportunities to inspire and enhance the lives of individuals through the Library's presence in Wales and through our collections, to increase the feeling of personal well-being and identity, to discover, enjoy and learn, and to understand Wales's place in the world.

We have set four areas of commitment where we can make the most significant difference to the lives of the people of Wales over the next decade. We intend to focus our work on achieving our vision and contributing to the seven well-being goals.

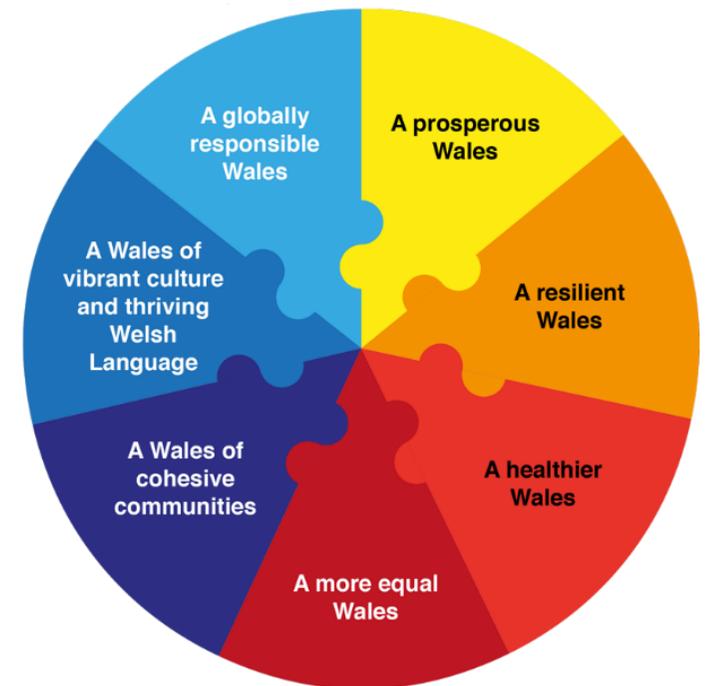
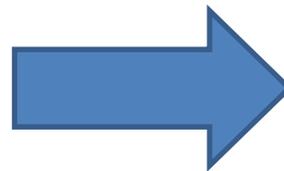
**Our commitments are as follows:**

- 1. Cultivate and care for the nation's memory:** Prioritising the task of capturing the diverse experiences of contemporary Wales, and as the nation's memory, continue to collect, manage and safeguard our collections
- 2. Lay the foundation for a knowledge economy:** Facilitate digital access to collections, considering from the outset the demand and potential use
- 3. Be at the heart of national life:** Build and support networks and communities based on our collections and services, and the culture and heritage of Wales more widely
- 4. Empower learning and research:** Support higher education and academic research, collaborating in research fields based on our collections or relevant to aspects of Wales, and also support the Curriculum for Wales and post-16 qualifications in schools and colleges

**The National Library of Wales' strategic and well-being objectives**

Our strategic and well-being objectives include the period 2016 – 2026, and is concurrent with our Strategic Plan, *A Library for Wales and the World*

1. Cultivate and care for the nation's memory
2. Lay the foundation for a knowledge economy
3. Be at the heart of national life
4. Empower learning and research



## How the strategic objectives relate to the act's well-being goals

A prosperous Wales	A resilient Wales	A healthier Wales	A more equal Wales	A Wales of cohesive communities	Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A globally responsible Wales
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Objectives								
<b>1.</b>	<b>Cultivate and care for the nation's memory</b>							
	Capturing contemporary Wales, highlighting the importance of recording our present as well as our past		✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Commit to diversity, ensuring that our collections are representative of all aspects of Welsh life and history, especially communities which have been under represented				✓	✓	✓	✓
	Provide expertise in the conservation and management of physical and digital information and work with Welsh Government to establish a dedicated national archive for Wales	✓	✓					✓
<b>2.</b>	<b>Lay the foundation for a knowledge economy</b>							
	Enable access to knowledge that inspires and invigorates, creating opportunities for businesses and the creative sector to engage with our collections	✓	✓	✓		✓		
	Enable public participation in the development of the national memory	✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Improve the quality of our user experience and become a destination both for visitors and researchers within Wales and worldwide on the web	✓		✓	✓			✓



3.	<b>Be at the heart of national life</b>							
	Connect and collaborate with communities throughout Wales and across the world			✓		✓	✓	✓
	Share our collections widely and provide a space to interpret and discuss aspects of Wales' past, present and future			✓	✓	✓		
	Promote Welsh culture and heritage globally and foster international links between Wales and the world	✓	✓				✓	✓
4.	<b>Empower learning and research</b>							
	Support education in Wales, especially the curriculum and post-16 qualifications in schools and colleges	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Work with universities and academic research in Wales by collaborating in research fields based on our collections or relevant to aspects of Wales	✓	✓		✓	✓		
	Provide unrestricted pathways to our collections, enabling informal and lifelong learning, creative practice and continuing professional development	✓		✓		✓	✓	

## Five ways of working

We will endeavour to achieve our objectives using the Five Ways of Working stated in the Act:



**Long-term** – Importance of ensuring a balance between short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs

**Prevention** – How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help the Library meet its objectives

**Integration** – Considering how the Library’s well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on its other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies

**Collaboration** – Acting in collaboration with any other person who could help the Library to meet its well-being objectives

**Involvement** – The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Library serves