Making our culture and heritage accessible to all to learn, research and enjoy

Well-being Statement 2017 - 2021
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 Operational Plan, the National Library of Wales’ vision is to:

**Make our culture and heritage accessible to all to learn, research and enjoy**

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 five 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. **Making a difference to Wales:** Making a difference to Wales by changing lives, working with local and national organisations and supporting agencies to create happier, healthier and more sustainable communities, with access to knowledge, learning and culture for all.

2. **Being excellent custodians of our collections:** By being the nation’s memory, we will continue to collect, manage and safeguard our collections.

3. **Ensuring long-term access to our collections:** Working in partnership, we will establish and develop a bilingual National Digital Library, leading the sector with innovative technology and professional skills that are second to none.

4. **Being central to national cultural life:** We will ensure that Wales benefits from the investment in the Library’s activities and services, working with a wide range of partners to provide support for local and national organisations, and improving our well-being objectives.

5. **Ensuring resilience for the long-term:** We will ensure that our finances and assets are resilient and safeguard the future of the National Library.
The National Library of Wales’ Well-being Objectives

Our well-being objectives

Our well-being objectives are for 2017 - 2021, and are aligned to our Strategic Plan, *The Nation’s Memory: Informing the Future*

1. Making a difference to Wales
2. Being excellent custodians of our collections
3. Ensuring long-term access to the national collections
4. Being central to national cultural life
5. Ensuring resilience for the long-term
### How the Objectives Relate to the Act’s Well-being Goals

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>A prosperous Wales</th>
<th>A resilient Wales</th>
<th>A healthier Wales</th>
<th>A more equal Wales</th>
<th>A Wales of cohesive communities</th>
<th>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</th>
<th>A globally responsible Wales</th>
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<th>Objectives</th>
<th>1</th>
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<td>Making a difference to Wales (a creative economy, a knowledge-based economy)</td>
<td>✓</td>
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- We will continue with our core purpose, innovate and grow and ensure that we contribute effectively to the life of the nation, based on a long-term commitment to satisfying the needs of the people of Wales for cultural and educational services.

- We will provide leadership, by establishing a coherent digital infrastructure strategy for the library and archive sector in Wales.

- We will increase our presence across Wales and reach out to communities with the services that we provide, in...
order to enhance lives, support learning and improve opportunities in life. We will have a prominent role in the development of a National Archive for Wales.

We will work with partners in order to ensure that the nation’s unique and distinctive cultural heritage is more prominent outside Wales, contributing to the success of cultural tourism activities in Wales that would be of benefit to the economy.

Develop our Volunteer Strategy and work with partners and care agencies to ensure that our collections and services are beneficial to individuals in need and diverse communities.

Provide a programme of activities involving health and welfare.

Deliver on our commitments to Welsh Government’s Changing Cultures programme.

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<th>2.</th>
<th>Being excellent custodians of our collections</th>
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<td>Continue to collect and safeguard Wales’ documentary heritage and to innovate with new ways of providing wider access to our valuable national collections.</td>
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<td>We will develop mindful strategies and policies in consultation with partners in order to manage the collections in the long-term, and thus ensure the well-being of future generations.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<th>3.</th>
<th>Ensuring long-term access to our collections</th>
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<td>We will develop the National Digital Library, based on a coherent infrastructure and professional principles, as a long-term strategy.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>We will develop a National Digital Preservation Strategy to be used in the public sector, and support the process of creating a national forum to exchange good practice as a collaborative initiative.</td>
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| 4. | Being central to national cultural life |
We will ensure that Wales’ unique history, culture and heritage, documented in diverse forms and media over the years, are available at all times to enable everyone to have a better understanding of who we are, to explain the historical and cultural heritage that has formed us as a nation over the centuries, and to stimulate learning and research.

We will reach out to communities in order to ensure that people are aware of the services that we provide.

The Welsh language will thrive within our institution and we will work with Welsh Government in order to improve the way high quality bilingual services are provided across the public sector and contribute to Welsh Government’s ambitious objective of ensuring 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.

We will develop a physical presence for the Library in other areas of Wales as a medium-term strategy.

5. Ensuring resilience for the long-term

We will deliver a long-term income generation strategy that will increase commercial income, grants and gifts in order to allow us to develop as an institution.

We will deliver a Workforce Development Plan in order to retain expertise, improve succession planning and develop new skills necessary for delivering our strategic priorities and specific projects.

We will continue to deliver our capital works programme, with a commitment to sustainable ways of lighting and heating the building, and to ensure the building’s preservation for the future.
Five ways of working

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

**Long-term** – Our well-being objectives focus on achieving our long-term Vision, ‘Making our culture and heritage accessible to all, to learn, research and enjoy’

**Prevention** – In our planning, we must endeavour to foresee and prevent problems from exacerbating.

**Integration** – The Library’s well-being objectives are linked to our Strategic Plan and everything else that we do.

**Collaboration** – Internal and external collaboration are essential in achieving our well-being objectives.

**Involvement** – It is important that we talk to the people whom we serve: they have a vital role in shaping the future of the Library.