

# Introduction to Welsh Sustainable Development Legislation

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# The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

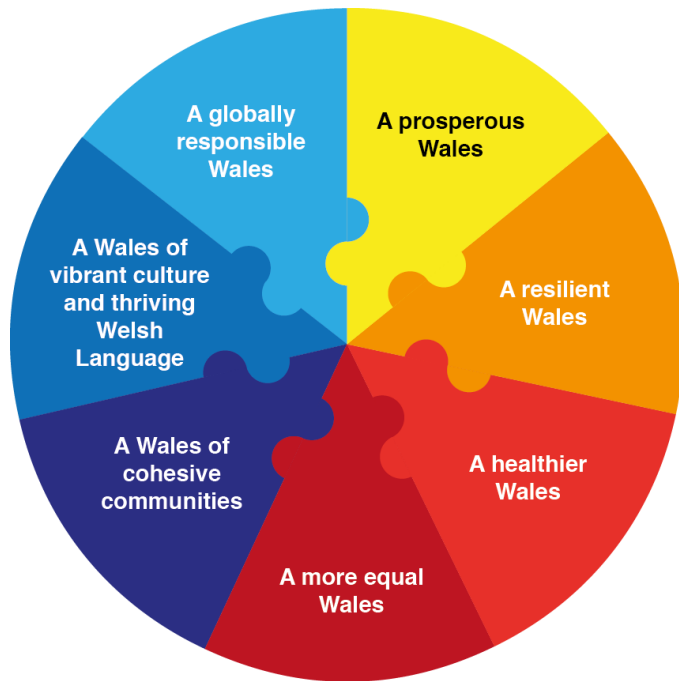
## What are they?



- 17 goals were globally agreed in 2015
- United Nations blueprint for a better and more sustainable future
- Aim is to achieve each goal by 2030

# The Sustainable Development Goals in action

## What do they mean for Wales?



- Identifying seven well-being goals
- Developing legislation to support these seven goals
- Identifying how best to enact this legislation
- Taking steps to enact this legislation

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

## What does this mean in practice?



- **Long-term** thinking
- **Prevention** of problems
- **Integration** of sustainable development into all aspects of operation
- **Collaboration** between departments, organisations and sectors
- **Involvement** of communities and public sector staff

# What led to the Act

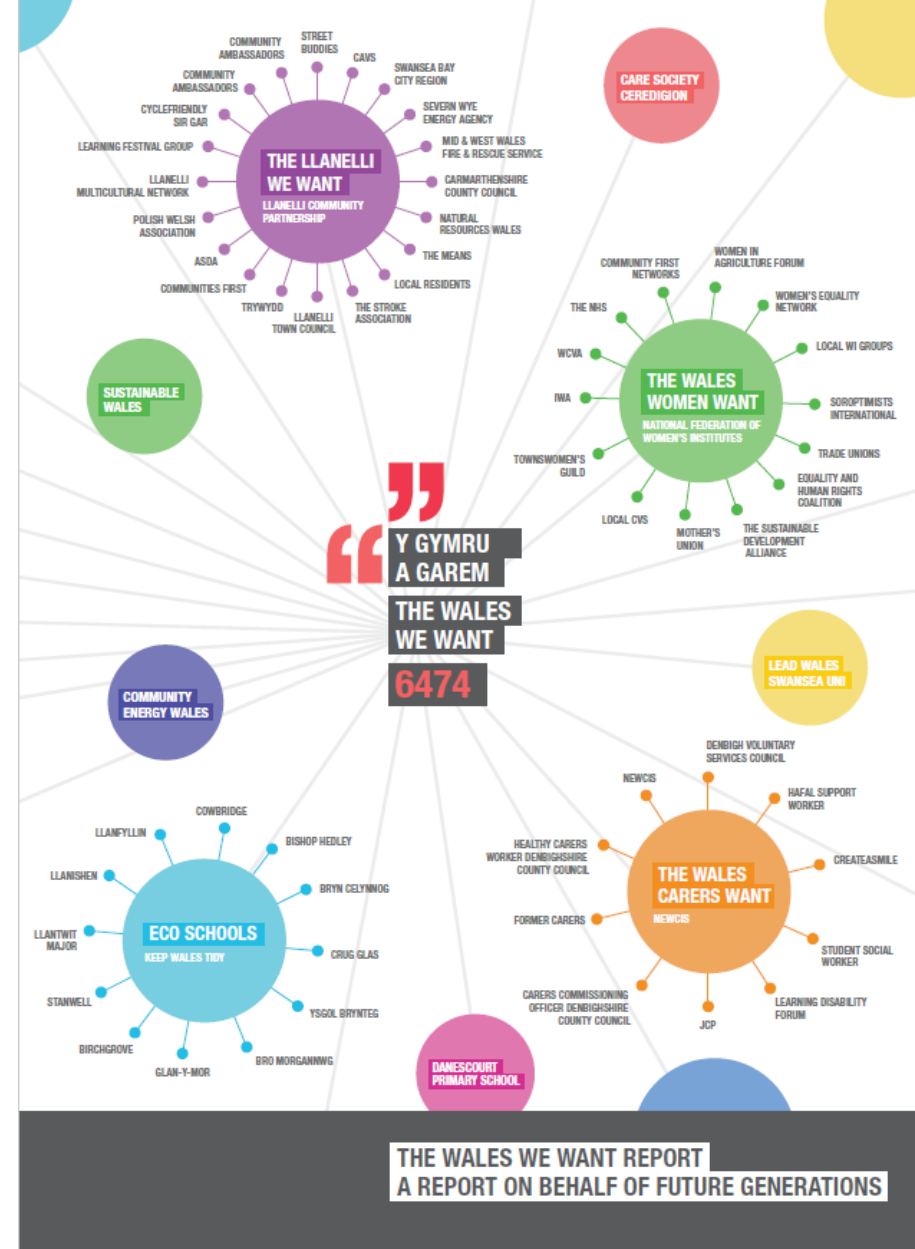
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- ❑ Short term thinking, not thinking about the long term
- ❑ Working in policy and organisation silos
- ❑ Separate solutions to common problems
- ❑ Greater awareness of connections between issues (environment, economy, society)
- ❑ Needs of whole populations
- ❑ Long term trends and challenges



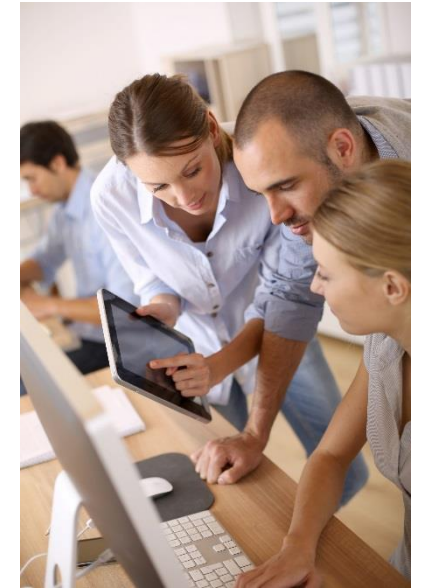
# “The Wales We Want” - National Conversation

- Informed the development of the WFG Act
- Almost 6,500 individuals took part
- Over 100 conversations across Wales
- Around 1,000 responses (reports, videos, postcards, drawings and surveys)
- Supported by Welsh actor and UNICEF supporter, Michael Sheen

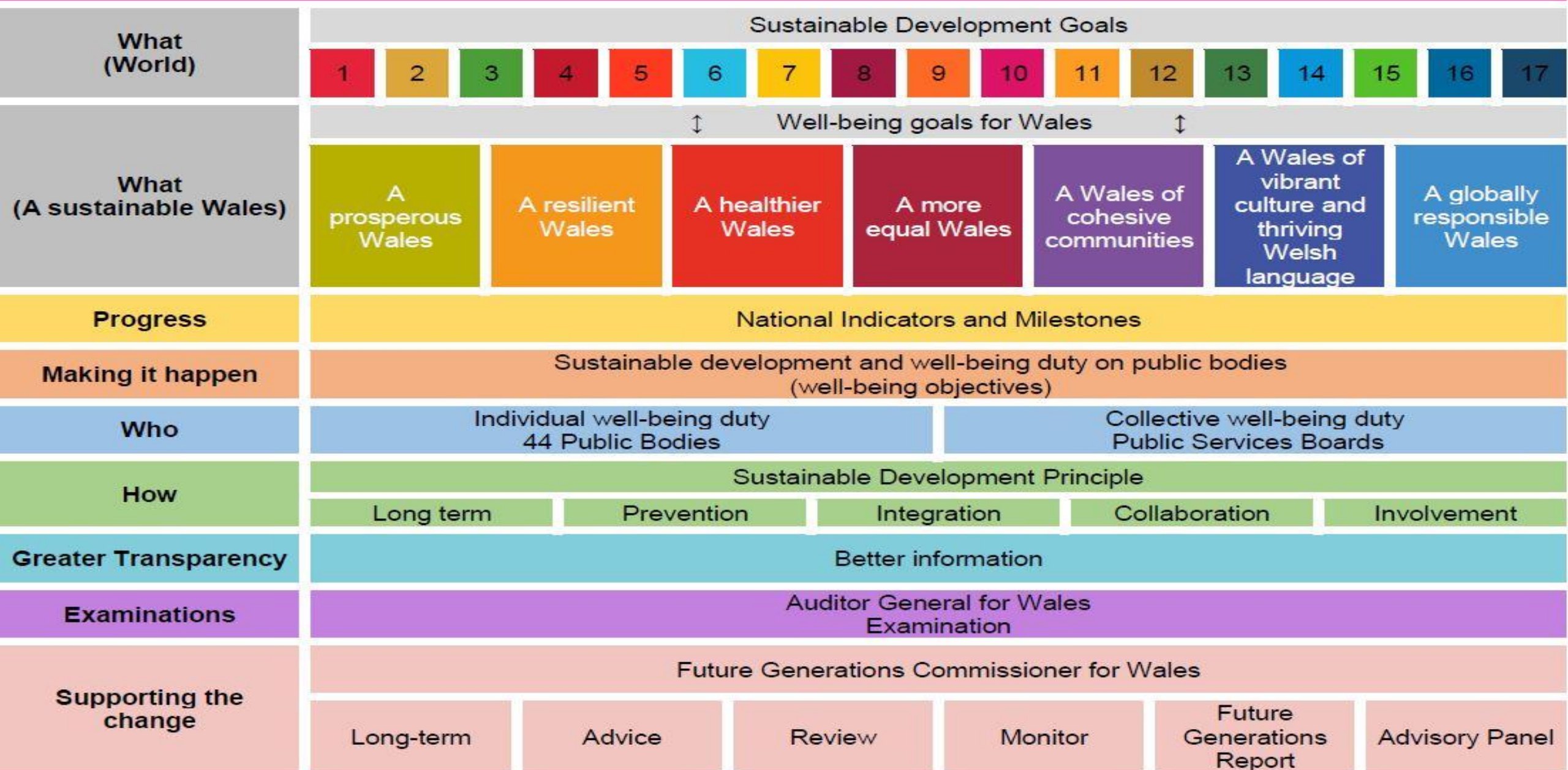


# Four 'pillars' of well-being

- Social
- Economic
- Environmental
- Cultural



# A Sustainable Wales | Architecture





# Megan's Story

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFeOYlxJbmw>

# Enablers

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- *Legislative competence* – unique culture, history and political philosophy
- *Tradition of developing sustainability* – linked to devolution
- *Leadership at all levels* – translating ideals into tangible policy
- *Timing* – Aligned with and responding to international actions
- *Support of key stakeholders* – for the Act as an enabler of Health in All Policies
- *Large-scale public involvement* – in shaping the WFG Act and connecting with communities
- *Framework* – to translate the WFG Act into practice

# Successful HiAP Governance

- Providing an authorising environment from highest level of government, political and executive leadership – as well as leadership at all levels of hierarchy
- Leveraging decision-making structures
- Creating an environment for cultural change in practices and ways of working
- Leadership that looks outwards, encourages dialogue, supports experimentation and innovation
- Developing a clearly articulated and shared vision

*Taken from 'Progressing the Sustainable Development Goals through Health in All Policies, Case Studies from Around the World'.*

# Views on progress

## From the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales Annual Report 2017-18:

- Framed debate and got issues on the agenda
- Encouraged commitments from Ministers, Government and others
- Secured procedural change in how public bodies go about things
- Affected policy change and commitments in a range of organisations
- Influenced practical behaviour change

'...We're open and realistic about the fact that this culture change is not going to happen overnight. As we move through turbulent and ever-changing times, the road towards the well-being goals is never going to be straightforward and easy.'

**Sophie Howe,**  
Future Generations Commissioner



# Views on progress



**Adrian Crompton**  
Auditor General

## From the Wales Audit Office report 'Reflecting on Year One: How Have Public Bodies Responded to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?'

- Public bodies are able to provide examples of how they are using the Act to change how they work, but they are not yet able to describe how they are systematically applying the sustainable development principle
- Public bodies are beginning to take steps to apply the sustainable development principle across their work
- Public bodies have identified some actions to continue embedding the Act but they are unclear about how they will measure changes in culture and ways of working

# Joint Action for Health Equity Europe

## Aims and objectives

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- Deliver a policy framework with a menu of actions and recommendations for national, regional and local take up and implementation;
- Develop better policies and improve monitoring, governance, implementation and evaluation;
- Implement good practice and facilitate exchange and learning; and
- Identify factors of success, barriers and challenges, and how to overcome them.



# Joint Action for Health Equity Europe

## Work Packages



25 countries in total

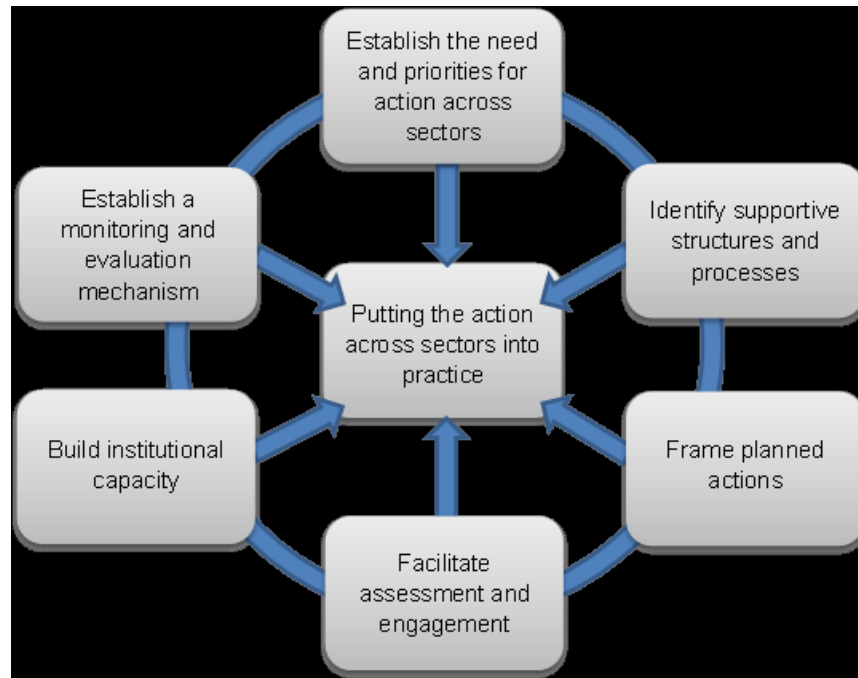
### 9 work packages:

- WP1: Coordination
- WP2: Dissemination
- WP3: Evaluation
- WP4: Sustainability
- WP5: Monitoring
- WP6: Healthy Living Environment
- WP7: Migration
- WP8: Access to health for Vulnerable Groups
- **WP9: Governance for Health in All Policies**
  - **Led by Finland, overall focus on governance and systems, related to Health and Equity in All Policies at local, regional, national and EU levels, taking into account the wider society**

# Work Package 9 – Governance for Health in All Policies

## Policy Framework

**Figure 2. Key components of implementing health action across sectors**



Source: Adapted from the Health in All Policy: Framework for Country Action, see: <http://www.who.int/healthpromotion/frameworkforcountryaction/en/>.



# Work Package 9 – Governance for Health in All Policies

## Policy Framework

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- Key lessons for Governance for HiAP
  - Joint accountability for equity, across sectors and decision-makers and within and outside of government;
  - Mechanisms actively promoting involvement of local people and stakeholders in problem definition and solution development;
  - Regular joint review of progress, which fosters common understanding and sustains commitment;
  - Draw on different forms of evidence to ensure policies flexibly address the main causal pathways.

# Views on Progress

## JAHEE Country Assessment Analysis

Level	Country
A	Finland, Norway, Wales
B	Belgium, Czech Rep., France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden
C	Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Romania, Serbia

Assessed against:

- Legal frameworks
- Political commitment
- Equity-orientated health systems
- Accountability
- Intersectoral work
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Overall assessment of governance of health inequity
- General consideration of equity in all policies

# How to deliver the Well-being of Future Generations Act

Findings from a literature review funded by Public Health Wales\*

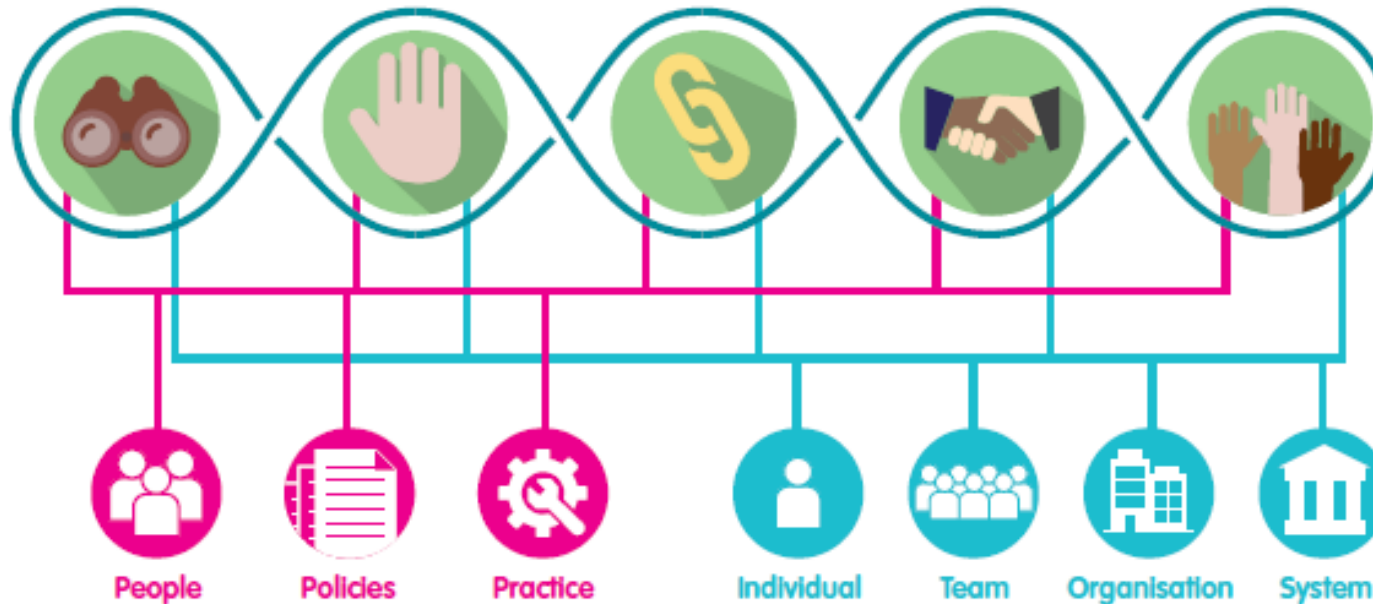


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## Recommendations for implementing the five ways of working

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**.



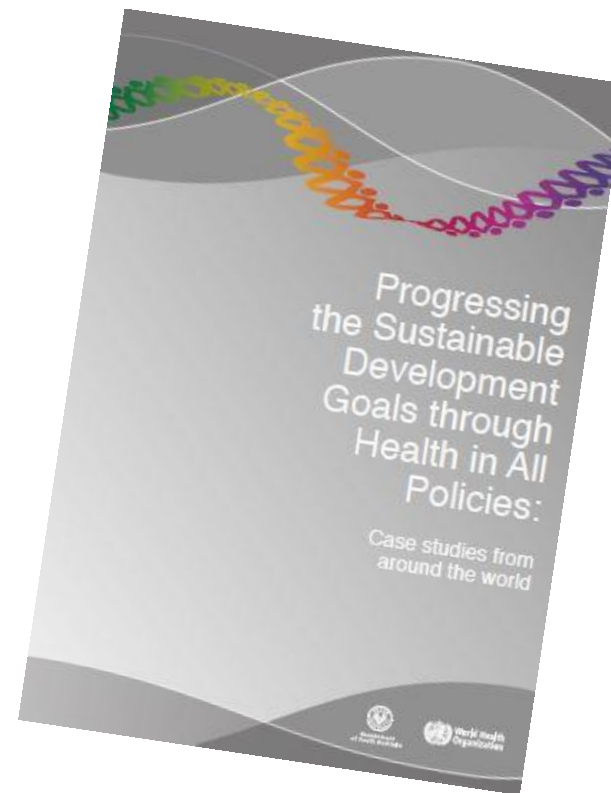
2. Ensure the five ways of working are visibly integrated in all activity targeted at **people**, **policies** and **practice**: make sure the sustainable development principle is visible in all organisational documents.

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.



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[Sustainable development in Wales and other regions in Europe – achieving health and equity for present and future generations \(2017\)](#)

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