



# The Impact of Medicines

Sophie Howe  
Future Generations Commissioner for Wales



## Is this part of our *past*?

**Throwaway Living**  
DISPOSABLE ITEMS CUT DOWN HOUSEHOLD CHORES



## Sustainable Development Principle

Public Bodies should seek to ensure that they meet today's needs *without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

## 7 Well-Being Goals

### Prosperous

An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

### Resilient

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

### Healthier

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.



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CENEDLAETHAU'R DYFODOL  
WELL-BEING OF  
FUTURE GENERATIONS

### More Equal

A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).

### Globally Responsible

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

### Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

### Cohesive Communities

Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

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## 5 Ways of Working



### 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 body serves



### Integration

Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies



### Long-term

The importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs



### Collaboration

Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives



### Prevention

How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives

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# Health care is responsible for 4.4% of emissions Worldwide.

## If global health care was a country, it would be the world's 5th largest emitter.

### Climate crisis inflicting huge 'hidden costs' on mental health

Vicious circle of climate impacts, trauma and depression must be broken, say scientists



SCIENCE

### Heat-linked deaths increased by 68% in populations above 65 years: Lancet report



Arkatapa Basu

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### Florida flesh-eating illness cases spike after Hurricane Ian

© 18 October



### Climate change fuels malaria infection

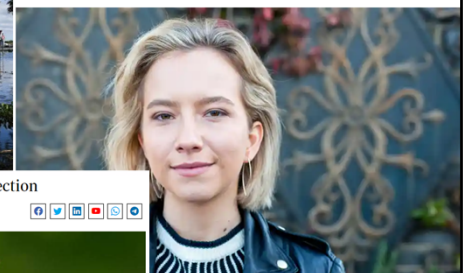
Health & Science | By Ben Mathew | Nov. 1, 2022 | 3 min read



A feeding female Anopheles stephensi mosquito. (AP photo)

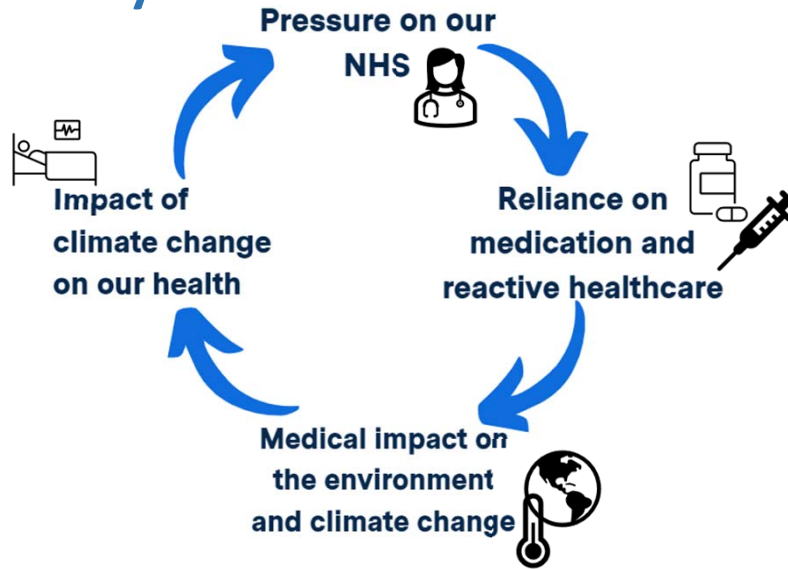
### 'Overwhelming and terrifying': the rise of climate anxiety

Experts concerned young people's mental health particularly hit by reality of the climate crisis



Comisiynydd Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol Cymru Future Generations Commissioner for Wales

## Breaking the Cycle



## Reactive → Preventative



Germany: Health apps to be available on prescription


Patients in Germany will be prescribed health apps starting in 2020, the German parliament announced on Thursday. Health insurance firms in Germany will provide digital health services on personal electronic devices.

EECA Programme:




**Landfill** → **Recycle**

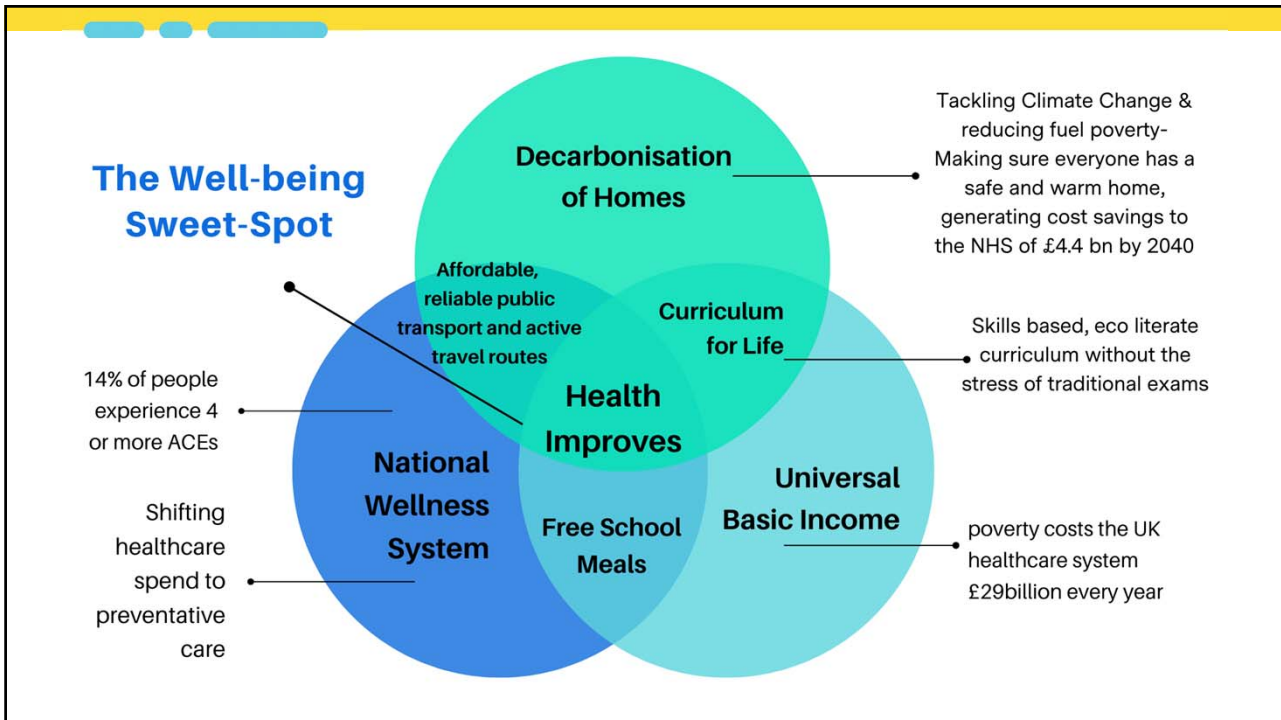
**Before**



PenCycle

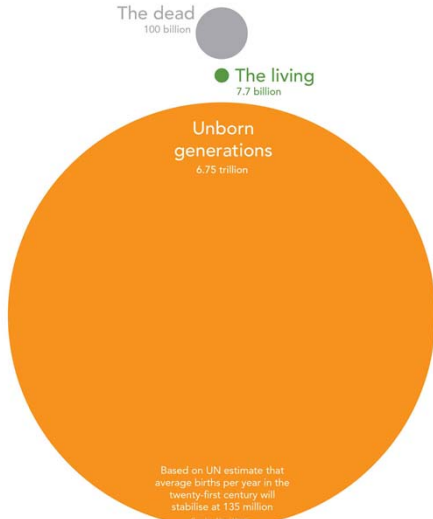
**After**





### The scale of unborn generations

Looking 50,000 years into the past and 50,000 into the future – assuming that the twenty-first century's birth rate remains constant – all human lives ever lived are far outweighed by all those yet to come



Based on UN estimate that average births per year in the twenty-first century will stabilise at 135 million

From *The Good Ancestor: How to Think Long Term in a Short-Term World* by Roman Krznaric. Graphic design by Nigel Hawton.

# The future is unstable for 6.75 trillion people

