

Critically explore the ways in which the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 seeks to underpin sustainable development.

In your analysis you should demonstrate how the Act relates to theories of sustainability.

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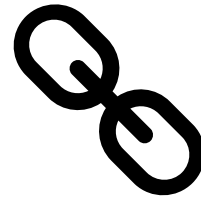
Content

- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Sustainability & Sustainable Development
- Sustainability Models
- How Does the Act Seek to Underpin Sustainable Development?
- Can Sustainable Development Ambition Be Achieved?

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

- Legislation
 - Wales
 - Through Devolution (Civil Service, No Date)
 - Legislative Process (Welsh Parliament, 2020)
- Ground-Breaking (Davies, 2016; Messham and Sheard, 2020)
- Wales had been at the fore front in introducing the concept of well-being and to consider future generation in legislation

(Hayles, 2018)



Link 1: Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

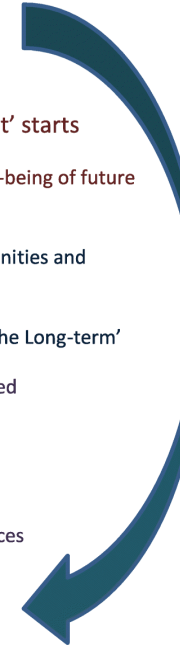


Link 2: Civil Service (No Date)



Link 3: Welsh Parliament (2020)

Timeline of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

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- 1998** Government of Wales Act includes sustainable development duty
 - 2005** UK Government publishes Sustainable Development Strategy; 'Securing the future'
 - 2007** Jane Davidson becomes minister for 'Environment, Sustainability and Housing'
 - 2007** WWF publish One Planet Wales report
 - 2009** Stockholm Institute publish Wales Ecological footprint scenarios to 2020
 - 2009** WAG publish 'One Wales: One Planet' report
 - 2009** Tyndall Centre publishes emissions trends
 - 2010** UK Government Axes UK Sustainability Commission
 - 2011** Peter Davies appointed as 'Sustainable Futures Commissioner'
 - 2011** Jane Davidson puts sustainable development legislation in Labour manifesto before leaving government
 - 2011** WWF publish report on embedding 'One Planet' aspiration in WAG
 - 2011** Work starts on the draft 'Sustainable development bill'
 - 2012** UN Rio Conference discusses SDGs
 - 2012** National conversation, 'The Wales We Want' starts
 - 2012** 'Sustainable development bill' title change to 'Well-being of future generations bill'
 - 2013** Jeff Cuthbert becomes minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty
 - 2013** Martin Oxford report published; 'Now for the Long-term'
 - 2014** Williams report on public services in Wales published
 - 2014** WLGA introduce local authorities to the WFG Act
 - 2014** WFG Bill introduced to government
 - 2014** Carl Sargeant becomes minister for Natural Resources and in charge of the WFG bill
 - 2015** Royal assent for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
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The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Well-being Goals

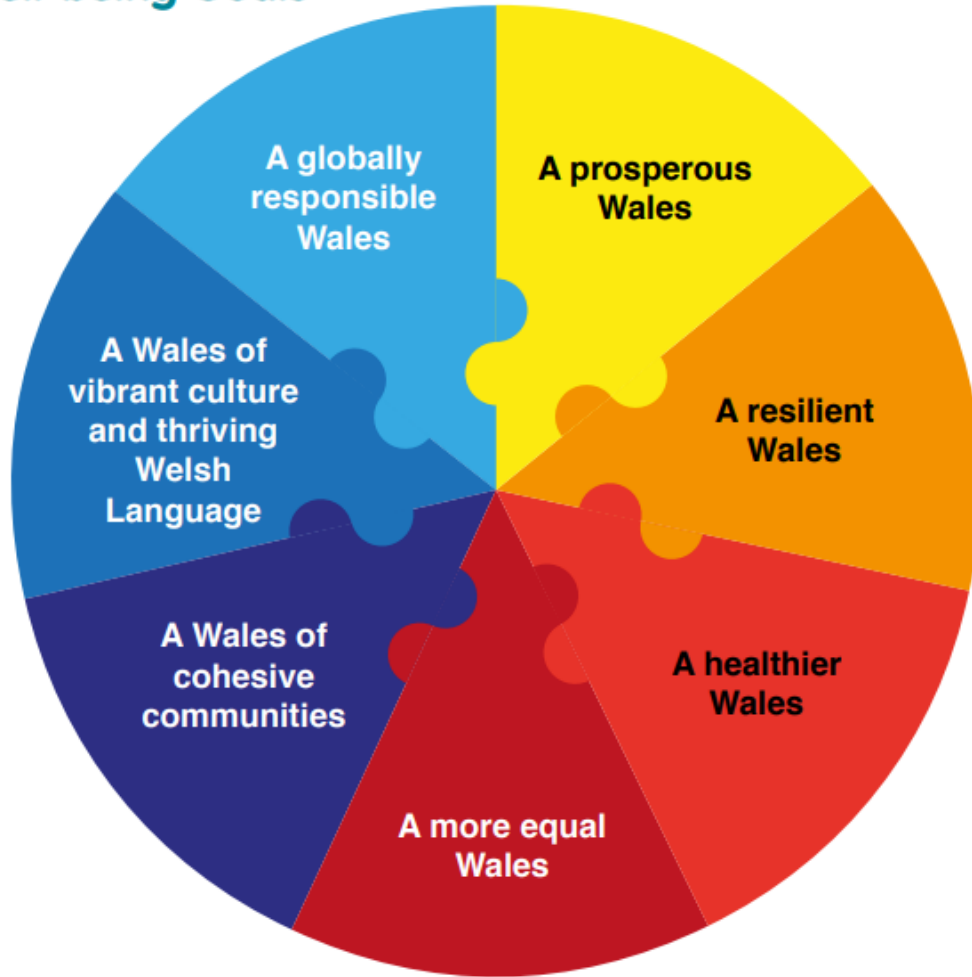


Image 2: Welsh Government (2015)

- Improve Well-being
 - Social, Economic, Environmental and Cultural
(Future Generations Commissioner for Wales No Date; Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Welsh Government, 2015)
- Requires public bodies to safeguard the interests of future generations
(Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Welsh Government, 2015; Davies, 2016)
- Principles – Five Ways of Working
(Well-being Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Welsh Government, 2015)
- Transparency
 - Auditor General for Wales
 - Future Generations for Wales Commissioner
(Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Messham and Sheard, 2020)
- Progress Attainment
(Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Welsh Government, 2016)

United Nations - Sustainable Development Goals

- The 7 Well-being Goals can link to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
(Charles, 2016)
- Well-being of Future Generations Wales Act 2015 was given Royal Assent on 29 April 2015
(Davies, 2016; Welsh Parliament, 2020 a)
- Millennium Development Goals 2000-2015
(Lomazzi, Borisch and Laaser, 2014)
- Plans for Post-2015
(Lowe, 2012; Sachs, 2012; Lomazzi, Borisch and Laaser, 2014)
- 2015-2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 17 Sustainable Development Goals
 - Adopted in September 2015

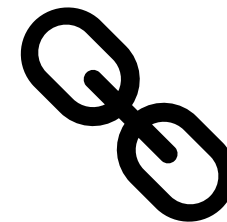
(United Nations, No Date)



Image 3: United Nations (No Date)

Sustainability & Sustainable Development

- Is a contested concept (Smythe, 2014; Jacques, 2015)
- Brundtland Report defines sustainable development as meeting
 - ‘the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’
(Brundtland Report 1987, p.16)
- Why?
 - Finite resources are depleting (Kuhlman and Farrington, 2010)
 - Over population and threat to existence (Brundtland Report, 1987; Cassils, 2004)
 - Can link to the work of Malthus in 1798 (Malthus, 1799; Aguirre, 2002)
 - Ted Talks presentation – The Earth is Full Humans, Stuff, Waste and Demands Instant Gratification (Gilding, 2012) (Kuhlman and Farrington, 2010)



Link 4: Gilding (2012)

Sustainability & Sustainable Development

- How To Be Sustainable

- ‘Humanity has the availability to make development sustainable’

(Kates, Parris and Leiserowitz, 2005, p.9)

- Human Capital

(Slaus and Jacob, 2011)

- Interdependence of

- Environmental Systems
 - Social Systems
 - Economic Systems

- To promote Equality and Social Justice

(Mensah, 2019)

Sustainability Models

- Three Pillars

(Giddings, Hopwood and O'Brien, 2002; Purvis, Mao and Robinson, 2018; Herath and Rathnayake, 2019)

- Triple Bottom Line

- 3 P's Model

- People, Planet and Profit

(Elkington, 1998)

- 3 E's Model

- Economy, Ecology and Equity

(Jacques, 2015)

- These 3 components must be balanced for sustainable development to be possible

(Elkington, 1998; Thatcher, 2014; Mensah, 2019)

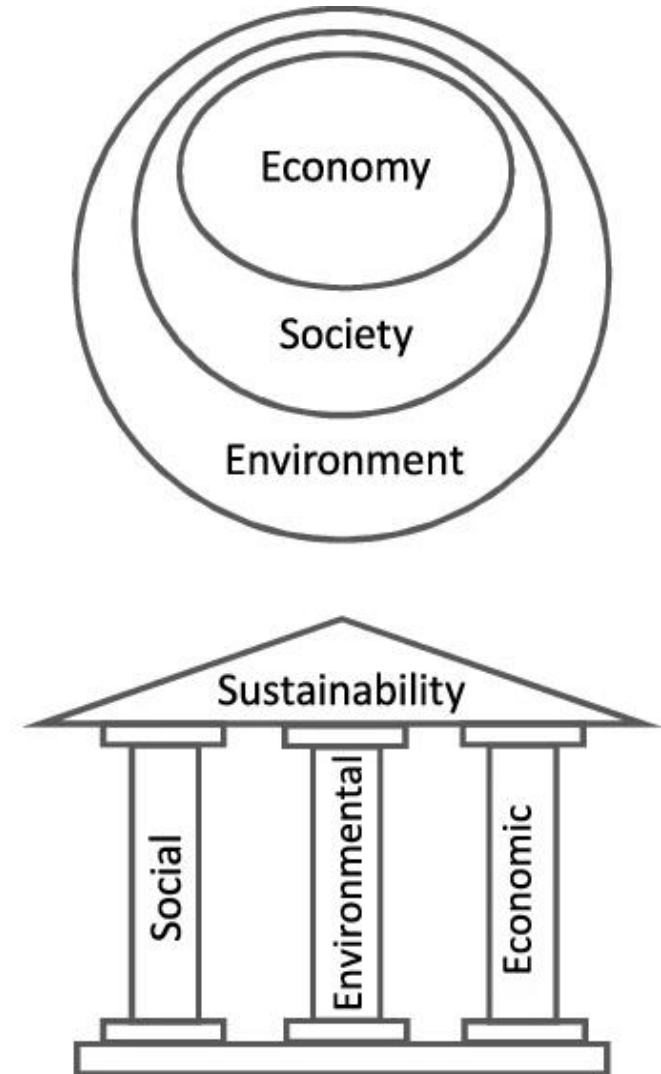
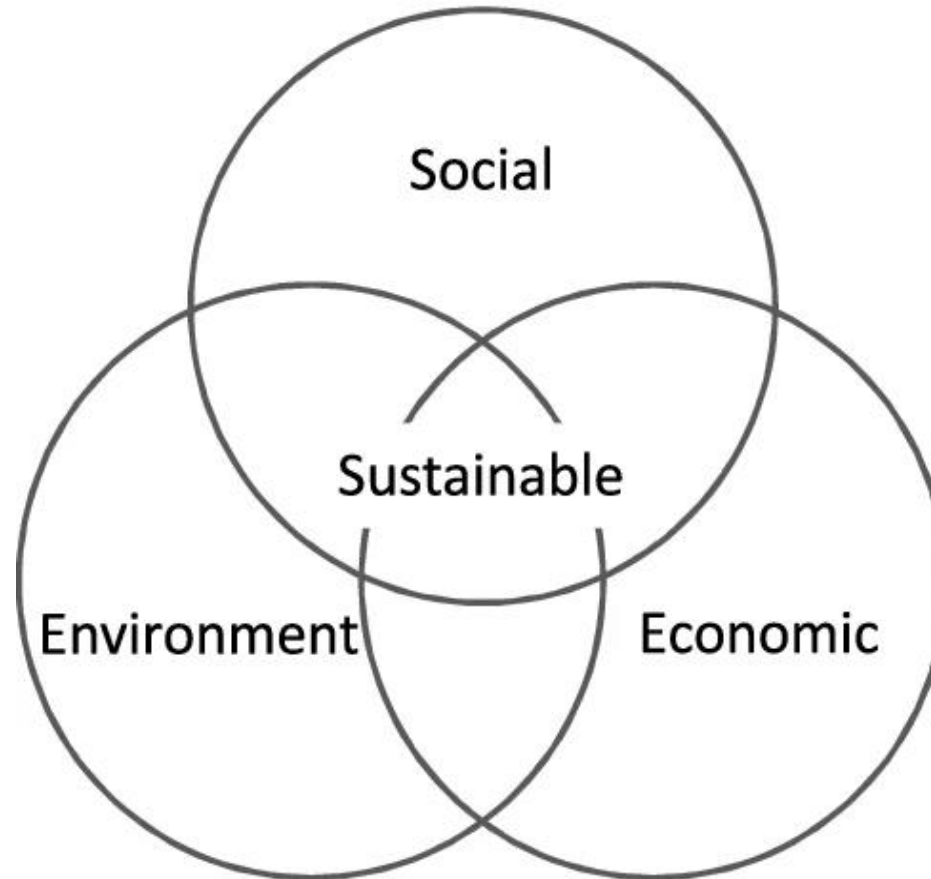


Image 4: Purvis, Mao and Robinson (2018)

Sustainability Models

- Nested Circles
 - Also known as egg of wellbeing model or concentric circles model
 - Acknowledges that the Societal and Economic Aspects lie within the Environmental Aspect

(Purvis, Mao, and Robinson, 2018; Yolles, 2018)

- Four Pillars of Sustainability
 - Sometimes known as the Prism Model
 - Considers the Social, Economic and Environmental Aspects
 - Also considers the Cultural Aspect

(Hawkes, 2001; Astara, 2014)

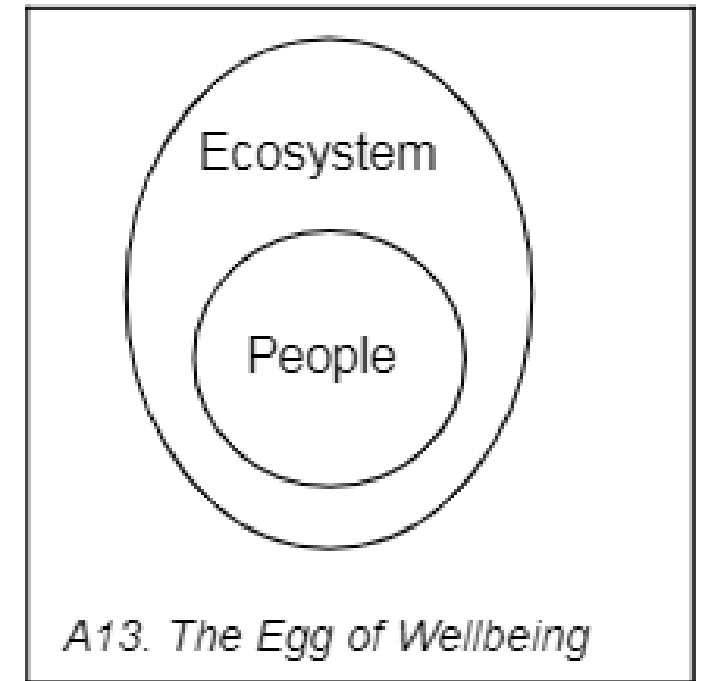


Image 5: Guijt and Moiseev (2001)

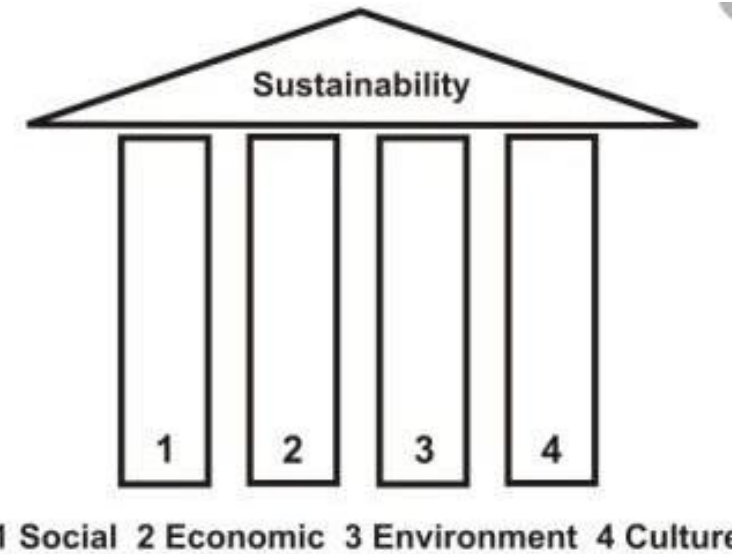


Image 6: Murthy (2015)

How does the Act seek to underpin Sustainable Development

Principles of the four-pillar model of sustainability

(Future Generations Commissioner for Wales No Date;
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;
Welsh Government, 2015 Davies, 2016)

- **Social**
- **Economic,**
- **Environmental**
- **Cultural Pillars**

Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

A prosperous Wales	A healthier Wales
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.	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.
	A more equal Wales
	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
	A Wales of cohesive communities
	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

Image 7: Adapted from Welsh Government (2019)

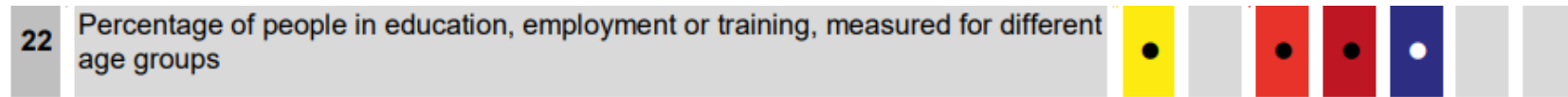


Image 8: Adapted from Welsh Government (2019)

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

- **Goal 4 Quality Education**
 - 10 Targets
 - Primary goal for all targets is to assist in creating equality in access to education and deliver the provision to achieve this

(United Nations, No Date x)



Image 9: Adapted from United Nations (No Date)



Image 10: Adapted from Welsh Government (2019)

Education in Wales

- ‘Schools are having to prepare our young people for jobs that have not yet been created and challenges that we are yet to encounter’
(Welsh Government, 2017, p. 2)
- ‘A nation’s economic prosperity, social cohesion and well-being are built on the foundation of a strong and successful education system’
(Welsh Government, 2017, p. 2)
- Educational Reform
 - Working together with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
(Welsh Government, 2020)
- Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill
(Welsh Government, 2020 a; Welsh Parliament, 2020 b)

Can Sustainable Development Ambition Be Achieved

Research on Sustainable Development

- Many variables in future trajectories
- Not possible to achieve sustainable development by 2030

(Moyer and Hedden, 2020)

Global Level – Sustainable Development Goals – No 4.

- Progress has been made
- Not on track to meet the 2030 targets

(United Nations, 2020)

Research based on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- “Aimed at” and “Reasonable Steps”
- No onus in achieving the well-being objective

(Davies, 2016)

Conclusion

Questions to be emailed to:
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Thank You

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