

# Equality Impact Assessment Form

Please ensure that you refer to the **'Equality Impact Assessment Guidance'** while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Equalities Officer or Equalities Team

<b>Details</b>
Name of Initiative to be assessed: Merthyr Tydfil Open Space Strategy
Name of responsible officer: Justin Waite/Tom Bramley
Group/Directorate: Place and Transformation
Service Area: Planning and Countryside
Date: 17/05/16

**(a) WHAT ARE YOU ASSESSING FOR IMPACT?**

Service/ Function <input type="checkbox"/>	Policy/ Procedure <input type="checkbox"/>	Project <input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	Information/ Position statement <input type="checkbox"/>
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**(b) Please name and describe below**

Open Space Strategy which seeks to secure the provision of well-designed and cared for open spaces within the County Borough. It will inform and help interpret the Council's local development plan policies, inform site management of open spaces and act as a mechanism for directing funding to appropriate sites where improvements can be made.

**(c) IS THE DELIVERY OF THIS INITIATIVE AFFECTED BY LEGISLATION OR OTHER DRIVERS SUCH AS CODES OF PRACTICE?**

**If so, please identify what and how?**

The Strategy is a requirement of Welsh Government Policy, principally Planning Policy Wales (Edition 8, 2016) and Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (2009).

**(d) Does the initiative directly affect service users, employees or the wider community?**

Yes  Continue assessment  
 No  No need to continue screening or carry out an EqlA

**Screening/Relevance Test: Is an equality impact assessment required?**

*Screening is used to decide whether the initiative you are responsible for has a high or medium negative impact on any of the protected groups and will require a full EqlA. Please highlight the positive impact the decision will have on the protected characteristics.*

What will be the effect on :-

Protected Characteristic	Impact? <i>Include Positive and Negative</i>
Age	Moderate positive impact. The Open Space Strategy has considered the demographics of wards within the County Borough to ensure relevant issues and opportunities are identified.

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Disability	Moderate positive impact. The Open Space Strategy has considered the levels of disability within the wards of the County Borough to ensure relevant issues and opportunities are identified.
Gender Reassignment	N/A
Marriage & Civil Partnership	N/A
Pregnancy and Maternity	N/A
Race	N/A
Religion or Belief	N/A
Sex	N/A
Sexual orientation	N/A
Carers	N/A
Welsh Language	Moderate positive impact. Public consultation on the Open Space Strategy and associated Action Plans was undertaken bilingually. The Open Space and associated Action Plans will also be published bilingually after adoption by the Council.

**If after completing the EqlA screening/relevance test you determine that this service/function/policy/project is not relevant for an EqlA you must provide adequate explanation below (Please use additional pages if necessary).**

An equality impact assessment is not considered necessary as no negative impacts have been identified. In contrast, moderate positive impacts have been identified for three protected characteristics, namely age, disability and Welsh language. It should also be noted that an extensive public consultation exercise has previously been undertaken in order to inform the preparation of the Open Space Strategy. A draft Open Space Strategy and associated Action Plans has also undergone six weeks of formal public consultation, which involved a notice in the Merthyr Express, publicity via the Cwm Taf Community Engagement Hub website and the Council's website, and public engagement events held at Cyfarthfa Park and Parc Taf Bargoed.

**Signed:** *JJ Waite*      **Position:** Group Leader Policy and Implementation

**N.B. If the initial screening process has identified actual or potential high or medium negative impact on a particular group or groups then you MUST carry out a full EqlA.**

### **Full Equality Impact Assessment**

*You should use the information gathered at the screening stage to assist you in identifying possible negative/adverse impact, including positive impact, and clearly identify which protected groups are affected.*

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In terms of any disproportionate / negative / adverse impact that the proposal may have on a protected group, what steps (if any) could be taken to reduce that impact for each group identified. Attach a separate action plan if necessary.

If ways of reducing the impact have been identified but are not possible, please explain why they are not possible.

Please highlight positive impacts and actions that have been identified as a result of the assessment process.

### Evidence Sources

(i) Give details of any data or research that has led to your reasoning above, in particular, the sources used for establishing the demographics of service users.

(ii) Give details of how you have engaged with service users on the proposals and steps to avoid any disproportionate impact on a protected group and how you have used any feedback to influence your decision.

Are you satisfied that the engagement process complies with the requirements of the Statutory Equality duties?

**Decision Log** – (detail how Elected Members and Senior Managers have been involved in the decision process (give dates of key meetings and decisions made)

### Review

**Date of Next Review:**

**If review is not required, explain why.**

## Equality Impact Assessment Form

<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Signature:</b>
<b>Job Title:</b>
<b>Approval date:</b>

<b>Date of Update:</b>
<b>Update recording</b>