

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Integrated Impact Assessment

(includes Equalities, Welsh Language, Sustainability and Biodiversity)



Before completing the Impact Assessment **PLEASE REFER TO THE CORRESPONDING GUIDANCE DOCUMENT** which provides essential background information.

An Integrated Impact Assessment **MUST** be completed for:

1. Any project (i.e. something that has a start and end date and is different from day to day business).
2. Where you are implementing significant change e.g. service provision.
3. For any Council / Cabinet report that is not part of an above mentioned project or significant change.

Title of Project / Report:	Housing Renewal Policy Report (2018)
Officer completing Impact Assessment:	Julian Pike
Lead Officer / Project Manager:	Steven Peters
Service:	Public Protection and Housing
Impact Assessment completion date:	31 st October 2018

Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal: This Policy has four key aims:

- i. to clearly outline the financial assistance available to local citizens
- ii. to identify private sector housing investment priorities
- iii. to contribute towards the delivery of the Council's Corporate Well-Being priorities
- iv. to contribute towards the delivery of the Public Service Board's priorities

1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives

Does your proposal help to deliver any of the Council's Well-being Objectives identified below?

Well-being Objectives	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on the Council's Well-being Objectives? Please place an X in the relevant box			Why have you come to this decision? Please provide an explanation	What actions have been/will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
	Positive	Negative	N/A		
<p><u>Best Start to Life</u> Children and young people get the best start to life and are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals.</p>			X		
<p><u>Working Life</u> People feel supported to develop the skills required to meet the needs of businesses with a developing, safe infrastructure making Merthyr Tydfil an attractive destination.</p>			X		
<p><u>Environmental Well-being</u> Communities protect, enhance and promote our environment and countryside.</p>			X		
<p><u>Living Well</u> People are empowered to live independently within their communities, where they feel safe and enjoy good physical and mental health.</p>	X			This policy describes how, in partnership with a range of organisations, Merthyr Tydfil CBC seeks to assist people improve local housing conditions. It is a recognised fact that poor housing conditions have an adverse impact on the health, safety and well-being of residents. Unsafe and unsatisfactory housing increases the risk of ill-health or injury to occupants.	

Well-being Objectives	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on the Council's Well-being Objectives? Please place an X in the relevant box			Why have you come to this decision? Please provide an explanation	What actions have been/will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
	Positive	Negative	N/A		
				<p>Vulnerable groups including the elderly, disabled individuals or families with young children are of particular concern as they are more susceptible to these risks. While the primary responsibility for the maintenance of a property rests with the owner, very often those in vulnerable groups do not have the resources to keep their properties in good repair and may require some assistance.</p> <p>This Policy outlines some of the ways the Council can help people to remain living independently at home and with dignity.</p>	
Sources of evidence to support the above:					

2. Sustainable Development Principles (The Five Ways of Working)

Does your proposal demonstrate you have met the sustainable development principles (five ways of working)?

Five Ways of Working	How does your proposal demonstrate you have met the five ways of working?	Are there any additional actions to be taken to better contribute to the five ways of working and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
Long Term - Thinking and planning for the long term.	Unsafe and unsatisfactory housing increases the risk of ill-health or injury to occupants. With an ageing population vulnerable groups including the elderly, disabled individuals or families with young children are often more susceptible to these risks. The Policy provides an opportunity to address the needs of vulnerable groups now and into the future.	
Prevention - Preventing problems before they happen.	Investing in housing is not only about bricks and mortar. Besides improving people's homes, it brings benefits for people too, contributing to improving their health, well-being and quality of life. Many adaptations prevent hospital admission by preventing slips, trips and falls often associated with everyday living tasks.	
Integration - Integrating with other strategies.	There is reference within this Policy to the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It also aligns with current national policy in a range of areas – by focusing on prevention. Empty Homes Loans – integrates with the Council's Empty Homes Strategy, by providing capital repayable funding to allow the owners of empty properties to renovate them for sale or rent.	
Collaboration - Collaborating with others.	This policy describes how, in partnership with a range of organisations, Merthyr Tydfil CBC seeks to assist people improve local housing conditions.	

Involvement - Involving people and communities.	Satisfaction data is captured in relation to DFGs – which informs service provision and any changes required to respond to feedback. Consultation on the content of this policy is not considered necessary as the vast majority of terms and conditions therein are dictated by either legislation or Welsh Gov (in respect of loans).	
Sources of evidence to support the above:		

3. Protected Characteristics (including Welsh Language)

Does your proposal directly impact on service users, employees and/or the wider community, including the nine protected characteristic groups and Welsh language as identified below?

Protected Characteristics	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on service users, employees and/or the wider community, including the nine protected characteristic groups and Welsh language? Please place an X in the relevant box			Why have you come to this decision? Please provide an explanation	What actions have been/will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
	Positive	Negative	N/A		
Age	x			Elderly residents typically access aids and adaptation services more than younger residents. The way DFGs are delivered – using our in house agency – means that Council officers manage all paperwork for the client, appoint the contractor and oversee the works on their behalf. This is very reassuring for older clients and very valued.	

Protected Characteristics	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on service users, employees and/or the wider community, including the nine protected characteristic groups and Welsh language? Please place an X in the relevant box			Why have you come to this decision? Please provide an explanation	What actions have been/will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
	Positive	Negative	N/A		
Disability	x			One of the Policy's key objectives is to promote independent living, by providing disabled aids and adaptations to the homes of people living with disabilities.	
Gender Reassignment			x		
Marriage and Civil Partnership			x		
Pregnancy and Maternity			x		
Race			x		
Religion or Belief			x		
Sex (Gender)			x		
Sexual Orientation			x		
Welsh Language			x		
Sources of evidence to support the above:					

4. Biodiversity

Does your proposal directly impact on Biodiversity?

Biodiversity	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on Biodiversity? Please place an X in the relevant box			Why have you come to this decision? Please provide an explanation	What actions have been/will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts?
	Positive	Negative	N/A		
Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience			X		
Sources of evidence to support the above:					

5. Summary

As a result of completing this Impact Assessment, how many positive and negative impacts does your proposal have? This section should then be included in the related Council/Cabinet report.

Please see the example provided in the **guidance document**.

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Not Applicable
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	1 of 4	0 of 4	3 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement 	4 of 5	0 of 5	1 of 5
3. Protected Characteristics <i>(including Welsh Language)</i>	2 of 10	0 of 10	8 of 10
4. Biodiversity	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1
<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The main positive impacts are the Policy provide advice and assistance to those in greatest need, particularly elderly and vulnerable residents; improves the condition of private sector dwellings within the County Borough; promotes independent living, by providing disabled aids and adaptations to the homes of less able residents and ensures more residents (particularly elderly and vulnerable) can live safely, securely and in relative comfort within their homes</p> <p>The main negative impacts are. None identified</p>			

6. Actions

Based on the summary of your positive and negative impacts, identified in Section 5 above, will you need to make changes to your proposal to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts? Please identify any further actions you will need to undertake to better contribute to positive impacts and/or mitigate any negative impacts.

What are you going to do?	Estimated completion date	Who will be responsible?	Timelines/Milestones e.g. 6 months/over a year, etc.	Progress

7. Version Control

The Impact Assessment should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. Please use the table below to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in the sustainable development principles where possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration

8. Sign off section

Approved by: Steve Peters

Job Title: Head of Public Protection & Housing

Approval date: 1st Nov 2018