

# **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.

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Project / Report:</b>            | Revenue Budget 2021/22        |
| <b>Officer completing Impact Assessment:</b> | Steve Jones                   |
| <b>Lead Officer / Project Manager:</b>       | Steve Jones                   |
| <b>Service:</b>                              | Finance                       |
| <b>Impact Assessment completion date:</b>    | 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 |

**Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal:**

The proposal sets out the Provisional Budget for 2021/22 after taking into account the implications of the provisional Revenue Settlement, net additional demands, service efficiencies and the outcome of the capacity exercise

## 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 |   |   |
| <b><u>Best Start to Life</u></b><br>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.                   | X   |          |     | The proposal is a major contributing factor in ensuring the financial sustainability of the Council thus enabling the continued delivery of essential Council services. | Continued robust financial management.  |
| <b><u>Working Life</u></b><br>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. | X   |          |     | As above  | As above  |
| <b><u>Environmental Well-being</u></b><br>Communities protect, enhance and promote our environment and countryside.  | X   |          |     | As above  | As above  |
| <b><u>Living Well</u></b><br>People are empowered to live independently within their communities, where they feel safe and enjoy good physical and mental health.  | X   |          |     | As above  | As above  |
| <b>Sources of evidence to support the above:</b><br>Budget Monitoring reports 2020/21<br>Balanced Budget proposed for 2021/22<br>Additional unavoidable budget demands reflected                           |   |          |     |   |   |

## 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?                    |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Long Term</b> - Thinking and planning for the long term.  | The proposal is fundamental to the long term financial sustainability of the Council.   | All services require to consider how services can be delivered differently and more efficiently within the Council's projected affordability envelope. |
| <b>Prevention</b> - Preventing problems before they happen.  | This proposal by recognising and managing the unavoidable additional demand pressures mitigates potential in-year financial problems for 2021/22. | As above.  |
| <b>Integration</b> - Integrating with other strategies.  | This proposal integrates with all strategies since it is fundamental to the continued financial sustainability of the Council.                    | As above.  |
| <b>Collaboration</b> - Collaborating with others.  | Collaboration with other parties will be explored in addressing future plans within the Council's Transformation Programme                        | As above.  |
| <b>Involvement</b> - Involving people and communities.   | In re-configuring services engagement with people and communities will be an essential requirement.   | As above.  |
| <p><b>Sources of evidence to support the above:</b><br/>           Provisional Local Government Settlement 2021/22<br/>           Additional Demands and Financial Pressures<br/>           Capacity Exercise<br/>           Balanced Provisional Budget for 2021/22</p> |   |  |

### 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   | Neutral impact since budget proposals are not discriminatory towards any protected characteristic. | All future service budget reduction proposals will be rigorously scrutinized to ensure all protected characteristics are considered. |
| Disability                     |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Gender Reassignment            |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Marriage and Civil Partnership |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Pregnancy and Maternity        |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Race                           |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Religion or Belief             |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Sex (Gender)                   |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Sexual Orientation             |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |
| Welsh Language                 |  |          | X   | As above   | As above   |

| 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 |   |   |
| <b>Sources of evidence to support the above:</b><br>The proposals within the Provisional Revenue Budget 2021/22 are non-discriminatory. |  |          |     |   |   |

#### 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   | The proposals address the requirement for a balanced Budget for 2021/22 | All future service reduction proposals will be rigorously scrutinized.  |
| <b>Sources of evidence to support the above:</b><br>Specific proposals detailed in the body of the report. |  |          |     |   |   |

## 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 |
|---|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives</b>  | 4 of 4           | 0 of 4           | 0 of 4         |
| <b>2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Integration</li> <li>• Collaboration</li> <li>• Involvement</li> </ul>   | 5 of 5           | 0 of 5           | 0 of 5         |
| <b>3. Protected Characteristics</b> ( <i>including Welsh Language</i> )   | 0 of 10          | 0 of 10          | 10 of 10       |
| <b>4. Biodiversity</b>  | 0 of 1           | 0 of 1           | 1 of 1         |
| <p><b><u>Summary:</u></b></p> <p>The main positive impact is that the report supports the financial sustainability of the Council in proposing a provisional balanced budget for 2021/22.</p> <p>The main negative impact is that the Provisional Settlement provided no indication in respect of future year settlements thus inhibiting effective financial planning.</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   |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| None since a balanced budget needs to be approved by 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2021. | Balanced budget by 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 | Chief Finance Officer supported by Corporate Management Team | n/a  | Budget Monitoring reports will be prepared throughout the financial year 2021/22 |
|   |  |  |  |  |

## 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 Jones

Job Title: Chief Finance Officer

Approval date: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021