

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:	Council Tax Discounts For Long Term Unoccupied Properties
Officer completing Impact Assessment:	Mike Parry
Lead Officer / Project Manager:	Mike Parry
Service:	Revenues
Impact Assessment completion date:	8th March 2021

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

The proposal is a report for Council to discuss the continuation of the discount awarded to Long Term Unfurnished and Furnished Unoccupied Properties for the financial year 2021/22. It is a statutory requirement that the Council makes a determination prior to the start of each financial year on the level of discount that may be awarded.

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	Internal accounting function to comply with legislation and the Authorities Financial Procedure Rules.	N/A
<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	Internal accounting function to comply with legislation and the Authorities Financial Procedure Rules.	N/A
<p><u>Environmental Well-being</u> Communities protect, enhance and promote our environment and countryside.</p>			X	Internal accounting function to comply with legislation and the Authorities Financial Procedure Rules.	N/A
<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	Internal accounting function to comply with legislation and the Authorities Financial Procedure Rules.	N/A
<p>Sources of evidence to support the above:</p>					

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.	Ensuring levels discount are charged appropriately to encourage owners to bring their properties back into use and monitored annually to demonstrate effective and efficient long term financial management.	
Prevention - Preventing problems before they happen.	Ensuring levels discount are charged appropriately to encourage owners to bring their properties back into use and monitored annually to demonstrate effective and efficient long term financial management.	
Integration - Integrating with other strategies.	Is subject to and complies with the Authorities financial procedure rules.	
Collaboration - Collaborating with others.	N/A.	
Involvement - Involving people and communities.	A report to Council must be made annually for a decision to made on the level of discount applied to long term unfurnished / furnished unoccupied properties within Merthyr Tydfil.	
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		
Disability			X		
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	0 of 4	0 of 4	4 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>)	0 of 10	0 of 10	10 of 10
4. Biodiversity	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1
<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The main positive impacts are bringing long term unoccupied properties back into use will increase the number of properties available for sale and let. Will also have environmental benefits such as reducing vandalism and improving community pride in an area.</p> <p>No negative impacts have been 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
Continue to award the discount approved by Council	1 st April 2021	Revenues & Benefits Manager	Report to Council every year as per regulations and Financial Procedure Rules	Complete

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
1	Report for consideration by Cabinet due on 19 th December 2018		

8. Sign off section

Approved by: _____

Job Title: _____

Approval date: _____