

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:	Suitable Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Clients
Officer completing Impact Assessment:	Suzanne Stephens
Lead Officer / Project Manager:	Suzanne Stephens/ Suzanne Lewis-Abbott
Service:	Housing
Impact Assessment completion date:	11/03/21

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

To seek approval and support from elected members on increasing the number of HMO's (Houses in Multiple Occupation) for use as temporary accommodation across the borough.

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			As part of the LA's statutory homelessness duty under the HWA (2014), provides temporary accommodation to rough sleepers and people who are NFA who present as homeless. Often is a kick start for change for some of the clients.	We already encourage support agencies to engage with clients whilst in TA - to help them access public services and make positive changes to their lives (if they want to).

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		
Sources of evidence to support the above: Officer knowledge and views.					

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.	Yes – as part of our Covid 19 exit strategy, we are working on the implementation of additional supported accommodation projects and other forms of permanent move on accommodation to rehouse all clients currently in temporary accommodation, providing the support they require to ensure tenancy sustainability as far as possible.	We continue to apply for external funding where possible to be able to increase the housing move on opportunities, working in partnership with our RSL's and other suitable projects are being developed to address homelessness.
Prevention - Preventing problems before they happen.	n/a – this is a temporary but essential response or intervention as part of the LA's statutory homelessness duty under the HWA 2014	We have recruited an additional Early Intervention & Homelessness Prevention Officer within the team, to provide advice and assistance to people at threat of homelessness at the very earliest opportunity in order to reduce the likelihood of them reaching crisis point and actually becoming homeless.
Integration - Integrating with other strategies.	Clients are often referred to other services and places for help and assistance. Some services actively engage with clients whilst they are resident there.	Links are being developed with the LA's employability team to ensure those homeless with frequent offending history and provided with the opportunity to engage with employability and training services to reduce the risk of reoffending.
Collaboration - Collaborating with others.	Collaboration between the Council and other third sector support agencies	
Involvement - Involving people and communities.	Consultation is undertaken with Police and local communities in areas where additional HMO's / supported accommodation are being considered to assess the risk and suitability of the location.	There is a significant swell of public support for the homeless population within local volunteer and faith groups who continue to provide food and outreach services to this cohort.
<p>Sources of evidence to support the above:</p> <p>Covid 19 Phase 2 Funding projects Recruitment of EI&HP Officer in Jan 2021.</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		
Disability	X			Many homeless people have disabilities (many suffer very poor mental health)	Some forms of TA is not easily accessible on a practical level to those with mobility issues - so access for people with physical disabilities may present a challenge. Alternative arrangements will be made to accommodate such clients if required.
Gender Reassignment			X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership			X		
Pregnancy and Maternity			X		
Race			X		
Religion or Belief			X		
Sex (Gender)			X		
Sexual Orientation			X		

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		
Welsh Language			X		
Sources of evidence to support the above: n/a					

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: n/a					

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>)	1 of 10	0 of 10	9 of 10
4. Biodiversity	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1
<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The main positive impacts are this proposal meets 4/5 ways of working; responds to local need, empowers communities and volunteers and saves lives in extreme weather.</p> <p>The main negative impacts are - none relevant to the factors outlined in this document.</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
n/a				

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: Alyn Owen

Job Title: Interim Deputy Chief Executive

Approval date: 11th March 2021