

# Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council - Integrated Impact Assessment

(Includes Well-being of Future Generations, Protected Characteristics, Welsh Language, Socio-economic Disadvantage, Sustainability and Biodiversity, Consultation/Engagement and Data/Evidence)



Before completing this Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA), please refer to the corresponding **guidance document**, which provides essential background information.

An IIA MUST be completed for:

- Any Council / Cabinet report.
- Any strategic decisions being taken where due regard is required to reduce inequalities of outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage.
- Any project (i.e. something that has a start and end date and is different from day to day business).
- Where you are implementing significant change e.g. service provision.

This IIA helps to support the Council in making informed and effective decisions whilst ensuring compliance with a range of relevant legislation. This IIA must be completed at the start of any project or proposal.

<b>Title of Report / Project:</b>	Annual Social Services Report (ACRF)					
<b>Officer completing IIA:</b>	Lisa Curtis-Jones					
<b>Lead Officer / Project Manager:</b>	Lisa Curtis-Jones					
<b>Service:</b>	Social Services -Children Adults and Safeguarding					
<b>IIA completion date:</b>	09/09/2022					
<b>Type of proposal: (please place an X in the relevant box)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plan
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedure
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please identify): Annual Report				
<b>Give a brief description of the proposal including the aims, and any links to relevant reports or documents:</b>	The Local Authority is required to report annually to Welsh Government on performance across its Social Services.					

	<p>The Statutory Director of Social Services is responsible for publishing an annual report on performance and the effectiveness of social care services across the County Borough. The Annual Report on Social Services 2021-22 has been produced in accordance with the Annual Council Reporting Framework (ACRF) and is intended to provide an overview of our performance for the period April 2021 to March 2022; highlighting what we are doing well, areas for improvement and our priorities for the year ahead.</p>
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**1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives**

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

How does your proposal help to deliver any or all of the Council's Well-being Objectives?

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? How will you know when this has been achieved?
	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Best Start to Life -</b> 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			We consider good practice in working with children and young people.	Build on good practice and work together with Education colleagues
<b>Working Life -</b> 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			Working with employability team in improving the offer to care leavers for employment or remaining in education.	Working with other areas of the Council to ensure services are available for care leavers.
<b>Environmental Well-being -</b> Communities protect, enhance and promote our environment and countryside.			X	Communities and their needs considered but not necessarily environmental issues.	Working together across all agencies and partners within the Council.
<b>Living Well -</b> People are empowered to live independently within their communities, where they feel safe and enjoy good physical and mental health.	X			Within our vision and SOAP one of the priorities is for social services to empower people to live independently. The priority being that they feel safe in their communities.	Working together across all agencies and partners within the Council.

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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		

**Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section 'Data and Evidence'):**

SOAPs.  
 Adult and Children Strategies.  
 Cabinet/council reports.  
 Improvement plans

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

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

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the Council to consider how any proposals improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being, whilst also looking to the future, planning for the long term and ensuring that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Please consider the national well-being goals when completing this section.

<b>Five Ways of Working</b>	<b>How does your proposal demonstrate you have met the five ways of working when developing the proposal?</b>	<b>Are there any additional actions to be taken to better contribute to the five ways of working and/or mitigate any negative impacts? How will you know when this has been achieved?</b>
<b>Long Term</b> - Thinking and planning for the long term, balancing short term and long term needs.	Developing services for the future to ensure people live independently and build resilience.	Ensure all partners are working together for the same agenda and contribute to this goal.
<b>Prevention</b> - Preventing problems occurring or getting worse.	Links to above but again working closely with partners and providing a multi agency approach to prevention across Children and Adults services. If services are available earlier then this will impact on Education, Social Services, employability, housing etc.	All partners are signed up to working together on this approach ensuring we have capacity within prevention services.
<b>Integration</b> - Impact on our well-being objectives, national well-being goals and the well-being objectives of other public bodies.	Social Services working closely with Education around the offer to children looked after and their attainment, working with housing colleagues to ensure there is housing choices for them and accommodation locally. Working with health across Cwm Taf to provide more robust joined up working with Adults and Children.	Various areas we need to build on across Cwm Taf – prevention, extra care and improving the offer to people with dementia.
<b>Collaboration</b> - Acting in collaboration with others inside and outside the Council.	Good collaboration with other agencies and good working relationships within the Regional Partnership Board.	Ensure attendance at regional meetings and highlight areas that would benefit from collaboration.
<b>Involvement</b> - Involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and who reflect the diversity of our communities.	As part of the ACRF we consulted on the report and the public view, which we responded to. As part of the priorities for this year again in various forums we have consulted with the public.	We will continue to build on previous consultations and as part of the regional working certainly consultation is an important aspect moving forward.
<p><b>Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section ‘Data and Evidence’):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Children and Adult strategies</li> <li>•Minutes of RPB meetings.</li> <li>•RTI plan</li> </ul>		

- Healthier Wales Plan
- Regional Partnership Strategy/Plan.
- Improvement plans
- Council/Scrutiny/Cabinet reports

### 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?**

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups. Please note that an individual may have more than one protected characteristic.

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? How will you know when this has been achieved?
	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Age</b> - People of all ages.	x			The report reflects all ages of the population because we cover services from 0 to 100+	Priorities are set out for all ages
<b>Disability</b> - People with disabilities/long term conditions.	x			The report covers services to children and adults with disabilities	Priorities are considered for all services within this area.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b> - People whose gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex they were assigned at birth.			x	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b> - People who are married or in a civil partnership.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b> - Women who are pregnant and/or on maternity leave.	x			The report covers services pre and post birth.	Prevention work and early years important in working together.
<b>Race</b> - People from black, Asian and minority ethnic	x			The report covers services to all children and adults assessed as in need of a service.	All groups treated equally.  No-one would be discriminated against.

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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
communities and different racial backgrounds.					
<b>Religion or Belief</b> - People with different religions and beliefs including people with no beliefs.	X			As above	As above
<b>Sex (Gender)</b> - Women and men, girls and boys and those who self-identify their gender.	X			As above	As above
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> - Lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual.	X			As above	As above
<b>Welsh Language</b> The Welsh Language Wales Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards require the Council to have 'due regard' for the positive or negative impact a proposal may have on opportunities to use the Welsh language and ensuring the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language.					
<b>Welsh Language</b> - Opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh language, treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, compliance with Welsh	X			If a person requires an assessment in Welsh then we would source this support.	We have Welsh speakers within adult and children services



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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
Language Standards, links with internal and external Welsh Language strategies.					

**Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section 'Data and Evidence'):**

Adult and Children Strategies.  
RTI plan.  
ACRF.  
Regional Board reports.

#### 4. Socio-economic Disadvantage (Strategic Decisions)

##### Does your proposal impact/deliver better outcomes for those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage?

The Socio-economic Duty places a responsibility on the Council to have 'due regard' to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions. This duty gives us an opportunity to do things differently and put tackling inequality at the heart of key decision-making. Socio-economic disadvantage means living on a low income compared to others in Wales, with little or no accumulated wealth, leading to greater material deprivation, restricting the ability to access basic goods and services.

Please consider: Single parents and vulnerable families, pensioners, carers, looked after children, single adult households, armed forces community, people with low literacy/numeracy, people who are homeless, people who have experienced the asylum system, students, people of all ages leaving a care setting, people living in the most deprived areas of Wales, people misusing substances, people involved in the criminal justice system, people who are not in education, employment or training. Please see the guidance document for more information.

Socio-economic Disadvantage	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on socio-economic disadvantage for service users, employees and/or the wider community? 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? What steps will be taken to reduce inequalities of outcome? How will you know when this has been achieved?
	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Low Income/Income Poverty</b> - Unable to afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing, transport, other essential items etc.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.
<b>Low and/or No Wealth -</b> Enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.

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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Material Deprivation</b> - Unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies etc.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.
<b>Area Deprivation</b> - Where you live e.g. rural areas, and where you work e.g. accessibility of public transport.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.

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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
<b>Socio-economic Background</b> - Social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income.			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.

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Socio-economic Disadvantage	Does your proposal have a positive or negative impact on socio-economic disadvantage for service users, employees and/or the wider community? 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? What steps will be taken to reduce inequalities of outcome? How will you know when this has been achieved?
	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
Socio-economic Disadvantage - What cumulative impact will the proposal have on people or groups because of their protected characteristic(s) or vulnerability or because they are already disadvantaged?			X	Not specifically mentioned in the report but support would be offered to all members of the community who have been assessed as having a need for a service.	All groups treated equally but this protected characteristic not specifically mentioned in this report.  No-one would be discriminated against.

##### Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section 'Data and Evidence'):

There is reference to the Anti-Poverty work being undertaken by the Council.  
Minutes of Anti Poverty Group meetings.

**4. Socio-economic Disadvantage (Strategic Decisions)**

**Does your proposal impact/deliver better outcomes for those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage?**

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	Positive	Negative	Neutral		
Workshop events. Anti Poverty Strategy.					

## 5. Consultation and Engagement

### What consultation and/or engagement has been undertaken to inform the development of the proposal?

There may be a legal requirement to consult in some instances, or a legitimate expectation that consultation will take place. Where it has been determined that consultation is required, the Gunning Principles must be adhered to.

- The proposals are still at a formative stage.
- There is sufficient information to give 'intelligent consideration'.
- There is adequate time for consideration and response.
- 'Conscientious consideration' must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made.

Please consider: Protected Characteristic groups, those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, communities and places of interest, other stakeholders, forums, community groups and community councils. Please see the guidance document for more information.

Consultation and Engagement	Has consultation and/or engagement been undertaken on the proposal? Please place an X in the relevant box.			Briefly describe any recent or planned consultation and/or engagement exercises, paying particular attention to evidencing the Gunning Principles. Please identify when the consultation and/or engagement took place or will take place, or why it is not required.	Who was consulted/engaged with? Was sufficient information provided to allow an informed decision on the proposal to be made? What were the key findings of the consultation and/or engagement? Have these findings been taken into account? Is further consultation and/or engagement required?
	Undertaken	Due to be undertaken	Not required		
Requirement for consultation and/or engagement to be undertaken, or a legitimate expectation that it will take place.	x			The draft report is shared with scrutiny and partners to express a view about the content and priorities for next year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Scrutiny</li> <li>•Health</li> <li>•Police</li> <li>•Public</li> <li>•3<sup>rd</sup> Sector</li> </ul>

Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section 'Data and Evidence'):

PNA summary document is now on our website: <https://www.ctmregionalpartnershipboard.co.uk/useful-documents/>

<https://www.ctmregionalpartnershipboard.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/CTM-Regional-Partnership-Board-Population-Needs-Assessment-Summary.pdf>

**6. Data and Evidence**

**What data or other evidence has been used to inform the development of the proposal?**

Evidence may include the outcome of previous consultation or engagement exercises, existing databases, pilot projects, review of customer complaints and compliments and other service user feedback, national and regional data, academic publications and reports, future trends, horizon scanning, business plans etc. Consider the sources of evidence from all of the sections in your explanation.

Data and Evidence	Has data and evidence been used in order to inform the proposal? Please place an X in the relevant box.		What data or other evidence has been used to inform the development of the proposal? What have been the key findings of this data and evidence? Has this data and evidence helped to inform the proposal?	How has the data and evidence helped to inform the proposal? If the data and evidence did not support the proposal, why was this? Have there been any gaps identified? If so, what steps will be taken to cover the identified gaps?
	Yes	No		
Data and evidence used in order to inform the proposal.	x		Data providing information on service delivery been provided across children adult and safeguarding services.	Yes, helped to show what future priorities should be and where services are required in future.

Sources of evidence to support the above:

Details in body of report



**7. Biodiversity and resilience of Ecosystems**

**How does your proposal impact on Biodiversity and therefore the resilience of Ecosystems?**

Under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 we must seek to maintain and enhance Biodiversity within the proper exercise of our functions. In doing so, we must also seek to promote the resilience of Ecosystems.

Biodiversity and resilience of Ecosystems	What is the expected 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 the maintenance and enhancement of Biodiversity? How do you know when this has been achieved?
	Maintained	Enhanced	Reduced	Neutral		
To maintain and enhance Biodiversity (and therefore promote the resilience of Ecosystems).				X	Unsure of this but in any capital funding bids decarbonization being considered.	in any capital funding bids decarbonization being considered

**Sources of evidence to support the above (please use this information when completing the section 'Data and Evidence'):**

Training given to directors around this theme to consider future areas of change.

## 8. Summary

**As a result of completing this IIA, please identify below;**

- The number of positive, negative or neutral scores for the Council's Well-being objectives, the sustainable development principles, protected characteristics including Welsh Language and Socio-economic disadvantage.
- If a consultation and/or engagement has been undertaken, is due to take place or is not required.
- If data and evidence has been used in order to inform the proposal.
- If the proposal maintains enhances or reduces the resilience of ecosystems.

**The table below should then be included in the related Council/Cabinet report.**

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Neutral / Not Applicable	
<b>1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives</b>	3 of 4	0 of 4	1 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> )	8 of 10	0 of 10	2 of 10	
<b>4. Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	0 of 6	0 of 6	6 of 6	
<b>5. Consultation and Engagement</b>	<b>Undertaken</b>	<b>Due to be Undertaken</b>	<b>Not Required</b>	
	1 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1	
<b>6. Data and Evidence to inform the proposal</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	
	1 of 1		0 of 1	
<b>7. Biodiversity and the resilience of Ecosystems</b>	<b>Maintained</b>	<b>Enhanced</b>	<b>Reduced</b>	<b>Maintained</b>
	0 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1

<b>Summary</b>	
<b>The main positive impacts are:</b>	<p>Report to inform future planning based on established baseline. There are clear links to long term plans, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement.</p> <p>The main positive impacts are working with all ages of the population and improvement in prevention work and working together with partners across adult and children services.</p>
<b>The main negative impacts are:</b>	<p>There are no negatives listed within the report – the report establishes a baseline for future working.</p>

**9. Actions**

**Based on the summary of your positive and negative impacts identified in the Summary section 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 inform this proposal e.g. whether further consultation is required or more data and evidence is required to better inform the proposal.

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

**10. Version Control**

**The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of the development of the proposal and decision making process, and then honed and refined throughout to strengthen and shape the proposal. This section will act as an audit trail to evidence how the IIA has been developed over time.**

Please use the table below to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have delivered the sustainable development principles.

<b>Version No.</b>	<b>Decision making stage</b>	<b>Date considered</b>	<b>Brief description of any amendments made following consideration</b>
1			

**11. Monitoring and Review**

**The implementation and the impact of the proposal should be monitored and reviewed throughout the development of the proposal.**  
Please identify how the proposal will be monitored and reviewed as it progresses, including the implementation of any amendments identified.

<b>How will the implementation and the impact of the proposal and any amendments be monitored?</b>	Implementation of the recommendations will be managed by Regional Children and Adult boards.
<b>When will the proposal be reviewed? How frequently will this take place?</b>	Annually
<b>Who is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the proposal?</b>	Chair of the Boards

**12. I/A Approval**

<b>I/A Approved by:</b>		<b>Job Title:</b>		<b>I/A Approval date:</b>	
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