

Cyngor Sir Powys County Council

Impact Assessment (IA)

The integrated approach to support effective decision making



This **Impact Assessment (IA)** toolkit incorporating Welsh Language, Equalities, Well-being of Future Generations Act, Sustainable Development Principles, Communication and Engagement, Safeguarding, Corporate Parenting, Community Cohesion and Risk Management supporting effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation. **Please read the accompanying guidance before completing the form.**

Service Area	Housing	Head of Service	Simon Inkson	Strategic Director	Paul Griffiths	Portfolio Holder	Cllr Jonathan Wilkinson
Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving		Review Welsh Housing Quality Standard Compliance Policy					
Outline Summary							
<p>Welsh Government requires that the Council as social housing landlord has a Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) Compliance Policy which is reviewed annually. The policy commenced on 1 April 2016 and this impact assessment only looks at the changes as part of the review.</p> <p>The Policy must clarify the Council's approach to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of WHQS, reflecting your own resources and circumstances • Interpretation and recording of 'acceptable fails' • Data collection • Data storage • WHQS progress and reporting • Independent Verification • WHQS+ Standard • Summarised annual financial investment in the stock • Link to WG statistical return • Interpretation and recording of community benefits <p>The reviewed policy has improved clarity and figures are up to date. Noticeable changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving WHQS for all stock is expected by the end of 2018 instead of April 2018. This is caused by the fact that setting up new framework agreements took longer than anticipated. • Giving tenants in off gas areas the option between air source heat pumps (ASHP) and oil heating, when they are due for replacement. Previously the Council would automatically install ASHPs. • The verification and validation of data process has been changed. 2016/17 will be a transitional year, allowing to incorporate all WHQS related data in the QL database. By the end of the financial year all processes will have been reviewed and a decision will be taken how to progress in the future. • Community benefits will need to be delivered by all contractors, not only those responsible for primary elements. 							

1. Version Control (services should consider the impact assessment early in the development process and continually evaluate)

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Version	Author	Job Title	Date
1	Henk Jan Kuipers	Service Improvement Officer	08-03-2017
2	Henk Jan Kuipers	Service Improvement Officer	25-04-2017
3	Henk Jan Kuipers	Service Improvement Officer	13-06-2017

Henk Ja

2. How does your policy / change objective / budget saving impact on the council's strategic vision?

Council Priority	How does the policy / change objective impact on this priority?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
Services delivered for less	No impact expected	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
Supporting people in the community	The section on improving accessibility to accommodation designated for older people has been updated.	Very Good		Choose an item.	
Developing the economy	The section on Community Benefits has been updated. Previously contractors delivering secondary elements were treated differently. Now all contractors will need to deliver and report on Community Benefits, using the Value Wales Community Benefit Toolkit.	Good		Choose an item.	
Learning	No impact expected	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	

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3. How does your policy / change objective / budget saving impact on the Welsh Assembly’s well-being goals?

Well-being Goal	How does the policy / change objective contribute this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
<p>A prosperous Wales: An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>	<p>The section on Community Benefits has been updated. Previously contractors delivering secondary elements were treated differently. Now all contractors will need to deliver and report on Community Benefits, using the Value Wales Community Benefit Toolkit.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	

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<p>A resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>Previously the Council would install air source heat pumps (ASHP) in off gas areas. The review introduces a choice for tenants between ASHP and oil heating. The main reasons is to give tenants the option to compare the estimated running costs before choosing. If tenants choose for oil, this will have a negative impact on the Carbon footprint. See also under “preventing poverty”.</p> <p>The policy now explicitly states that the Council regards SAP ratings below 65 as an acceptable fail in off gas areas where the property has adequate insulation and heating.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>The Service will consider installing Photovoltaic, or Solar Panels, on properties where low energy ratings or fuel poverty, cannot otherwise be addressed.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>It is difficult to estimate the effect on greenhouse gas emissions. There are around 1500 homes off gas, but we don’t know what tenants will choose when the heating installation is due for replacement. The info from the Nottingham Energy partnership heating cost comparison table (http://www.nottenergy.com/energy_cost_comparison/) indicates that potentially taking out oil and putting in ASHPs decreases the kg CO2 emission/KWh from 0.296 to 0.191.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales: A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>	<p>No expected impact</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities.</p>	<p>No expected impact</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	

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A globally responsible Wales: A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language: A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.					
<i>Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Welsh Language impact on staff</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
A more equal Wales: A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).					
<i>Age</i>	Works improving access will have a positive impact.	Very Good		Choose an item.	
<i>Disability</i>	Works improving access will have a positive impact.	Very Good		Choose an item.	
<i>Gender reassignment</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Marriage or civil partnership</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Race</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Religion or belief</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Sex</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	

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<i>Sexual Orientation</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
<i>Pregnancy and Maternity</i>	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	

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4. How does your policy / change objective / budget saving impact on the council's other key guiding principles?

Principle	How does the policy / change objective impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
Sustainable Development Principle (5 ways of working)					
<p>Long Term: Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.</p>	<p>The financial figures have been updated in accordance with the 30 year business plan. The Council expects to invest £352 mln on programmed renewal and improvement works works.</p>	<p>Very Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	
<p>Collaboration: Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.</p>	<p>The section on Community Benefits has been updated. Previously contractors delivering secondary elements were treated differently. Now all contractors will need to deliver and report on Community Benefits, using the Value Wales Community Benefit Toolkit.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	

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Principle	How does the policy / change objective impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
<p>Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): <i>Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them.</i></p>	<p>The Tenants' Liaison Forum (TLF) Policies subgroup has been invited to submit comments. The TLF Investing in Your Home subgroup has discussed the policy and formulated suggestions and questions, which has been responded to.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	
<p>Prevention: <i>Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.</i></p>	<p>No expected impact</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	
<p>Integration: <i>Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.</i></p>	<p>No expected impact</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>	

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Principle	How does the policy / change objective impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
Preventing Poverty: Prevention, including helping people into work and mitigating the impact of poverty.	By giving tenants in off gas areas the choice between air source heat pumps (ASHP) and oil heating, they can take the running costs into account. Until the review the Council would automatically install ASHPs.	Good		Choose an item.	The info from the Nottingham Energy partnership heating cost comparison table (http://www.nottenergy.com/energy_cost_comparison/) indicates that potentially taking out oil and putting in ASHPs increases the heating unit cost from 5.01 p/kWh to 6.05 p/kWh (January 2017). If someone does find the system more expensive, and doesn't use the system then the RHI return won't materialise to reclaim the additional spend in capital. Energy Saving Trust data showing new oil boilers as generally being cheaper to run than ASHPs http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/renewable-energy/heat/air-source-heat-pumps
Safeguarding: Preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with health and social care needs who can't protect themselves.	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
Corporate Parenting: Enabling our looked after children to fulfil their potential.	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
Impact on PCC Workforce	No expected impact	Choose an item.		Choose an item.	

5. Achievability of Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving?

Impact on Service / Council	Risk to delivery of Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving	Inherent Risk
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Low	Low	Low
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6. What are the risks to service delivery or the council following implementation of this Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving?

Description of risks			
The accurate independent verification, validation and updating of data relating to all individual WHQS elements, as part of the QL Housing Management system. It is not entirely clear how this will be incorporated in the QL system. This includes accurate descriptions of all acceptable fails. As a fall back option the spreadsheets with data will be used, as before.			
Judgement (to be included in project risk register)			
Very High Risk	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
			Low
Mitigating Actions			Residual Risk (after mitigation)
None, this is an acceptable risk.			Low
			Choose an item.
			Choose an item.
Does the Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving have potential to impact on another service area? PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM / ENGAGE ANY AFFECTED SERVICE AREAS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY			
No expected impact			

7. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)	Cabinet Report Reference:
There are no foreseeable negative outcomes. The Council will continue to improve its housing stock to meet WHQS in 2018.	

8. Is there additional evidence to support the Impact Assessment (IA)?

What additional evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

9. On-going monitoring arrangements?

What arrangements will be put in place to monitor the impact over time?

Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.

10. Sign Off

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Service Manager:			
Head of Service:			
Strategic Director:			
Portfolio Holder:			

FORM ENDS