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 | Leisure Services | Head of Service | Stuart Mackintosh | Strategic Director | Paul Griffiths | Portfolio Holder | Cllr Graham Brown | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Policy / Change Object | Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving Closure of Knighton Sports Centre | | | | | | | |
| Outline Summary | | | | | | | | |
| of the Knighton Sports | been tasked with achiev Centre. The current op ighton Sports Centre | _ | saving for 2017/18 as | part of the MTFS. Part o | of the current proposals | to achieve those saving | gs consider the future | |

- 2) Transfer of Knighton Sports Centre to a third party operator at no cost to the Council (CAT transfer) please see separate IA.
- 3) To retain the facility without change no IA required as there would be no change to current circumstances.

This Impact Assessment will focus on the potential impacts of option number 1: Closure of Knighton Sports Centre.

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

| Version | Author | Job Title | Date | |
|---------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 01 | Nina Davies | Countryside Access Officer (Operational) | 22 nd November 2016 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

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? | 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 |
|------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
|------------------|---|---|--|--|---|



| Council Priority | How does the policy / change objective impact on this priority? | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| Services delivered for less | Leisure Services have been tasked with finding an additional £200k saving for the 2017/18 financial year. The option to close Knighton Sports Centre would save £122,927. If the decision was taken to close the centre, leisure services would continue to be delivered across Powys as a whole, at a reduced cost. This would be in line with the council priority. However, it should be recognised that the option to close the Sports Centre would mean that leisure services would no longer be delivered in Knighton. The same level of service would not be available to the people who live in and around Knighton. People wishing to access leisure facilities would have to travel to other centres, the nearest being in Presteigne, 7 miles distant. The consultation has shown that many current users of the Knighton Sports Centre facilities, could not, or would not, access other leisure opportunities because of a lack of access to a car and public transport. The consultation has also shown that local children would not access the leisure service as often, as they would no longer be able to walk independently to their nearest facility. Therefore, although the option to close Knighton Sports Centre would result in the | Neutral | | Neutral | V4 Options Report Knighton Feedback Report – Consultation responses highlighted that lack of transport would hinder many to access alternative leisure facilities (53 comments). Closure of the pool would negatively impact on children accessing swimming opportunities (93 comments). |



| Council Priority | How does the policy / change objective impact on this priority? | 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 |
|------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| | leisure service across the county of Powys being delivered for less, it would be a reduced service for the Knighton community. | | | | |



| Council Priority | How does the policy / change objective impact on this priority? | 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 |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Supporting people in the community | The proposal to close this centre would still mean that a reasonable and sufficient level of access to a range of services would be available across the county. Leisure centres deliver access to fitness classes, sporting facilities, social & community events, group and society meeting and a range of community delivered & volunteer-led services – all of which enable people to be active, engaged and live fulfilling lives. The proposal to close Knighton Sports Centre would mean that all of the positive impacts that Leisure Centres can have on supporting people in the community, as outlined above, would be lost for the people of Knighton and the surrounding area. Currently the centre offers fitness classes and sporting facilities, it can act as a social meeting point and brings community groups together. Closing the centre would mean that residents of Knighton would be expected to travel to access the activities and programmes outlined. This would not be possible for all individuals and opportunities for independence may be lost. Carers within the local community may no longer be able to access facilities with the people they care for due to transportation issues. The option to close would mean that people are not being | Poor | | Poor | V4 Options Report Access Model Knighton Feedback Report – 152 comments were received about the negative impact on the local area, 93 comments were concerned with the loss of swimming opportunities for children and young people, 114 comments outlined the negative impact closure would have on health and well-being, many had been referred by their GP, a service not available in nearby centre. |



| Council Priority | How does the policy / change objective impact on this priority? | 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 |
|------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| | supported within their community (Knighton) to live fulfilled lives, with specific regards to providing access to leisure facilities. | | | | |
| Developing the economy | Closing Knighton Sports Centre would not help to develop the Powys economy as it would mean that jobs are lost within the Knighton community. Leisure Centres often provide good job opportunities and training for young people, e.g. lifeguards, sports trainers and assistants etc. | Very Poor | | Very Poor | Knighton Feedback Report - 152 comments were received during the consultation process outlining the negative impact closure would have on the local economy |
| Learning | Knighton Sports Centre is accessed weekly by children from the Knighton Church in Wales Primary school plus other local schools from over the border. If school children had to be transported further for swimming lessons, it may result in a reduction in swimming for the children due to additional financial and time constraints. The Sports Centre also accommodates Breakfast Club, Holiday Club, Brownies and other youth groups. It is currently unclear where these activities could be provided if the centre were to close. | Very Poor | | Very Poor | Knighton Feedback Report – a large percentage of respondents talked about the negative impact on children and young people in terms of accessing swimming lessons. There were 93 comments received on this issue alone. |





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 |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| 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. | Closing Knighton Sports Centre would mean reduced employment opportunities for the town and reduced opportunities for residents to develop new skills especially in terms of leisure and sport. | Poor | | Poor | Knighton Feedback report – the consultation highlighted that people felt the proposal would have a negative impact on the local economy and jobs |
| 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). | Closing Knighton Sports Centre would mean that people have to travel further to access leisure facilities. This would result in increased usage of cars and therefore CO2 emissions. | Poor | | Poor | |
| 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. | Closing Knighton Sports Centre would mean that local residents and visitors to the town would have reduced opportunities to undertake sport and physical activities, which could negatively impact on people's physical and mental well-being. The centre is also home to many local and community groups, which provide important social and learning opportunities to a mix of ages. Young people from the town would no longer be able to walk to their nearest leisure facilities therefore access would be reduced. | Very Poor | | Very Poor | Knighton Feedback Report – respondents clearly felt that the pool/centre were very important for their health and well-being, with 114 comments on this issue. Concerns were also raised about the loss of a facility used extensively by community groups as a base. |





| A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities. | Knighton Sports Centre is host to a number of community groups and organisations which allow members of the community to meet and connect. Closure of the centre would mean the closure of one of the communities' social hubs. Responses to the consultation cite that the closure of the centre will make Knighton and less attractive and viable place to live with some talking about moving their families elsewhere. Children and young people raised concerns over the reduced opportunities to learn to swim and the dangers of that with a river running through the town. | Poor | Poor | Knighton Feedback Report – concerns were raised about the systematic reduction in services in Knighton and the area. This was starting to have a detrimental effect with people talking about moving away from the area. With an ageing population and declining pupil numbers residents felt the proposal would do little to encourage families to stay in the town. The loss of a centre which was used extensively by other community groups as a base for their sessions was also deemed worrying. |
|---|---|------|------|--|
| 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. | Closure of Knighton Sports Centre would not have a positive contribution to global wellbeing. If people have to travel further to access leisure facilities this would mean an increase in CO2 emissions. Welsh language: A society that promotes and protects cu | Poor | Poor | |

recreation.



| Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language | The use of the Welsh language at Knighton Sports Centre by staff and/or visitors is unknown. | Unknown | Unknow | |
|--|--|-----------|----------|---|
| Treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language | Closing the centre would have the same impact on the Welsh language as the English language. | Neutral | Neutral | |
| Opportunities to promote the Welsh language | | Neutral | Neutral | |
| Welsh Language impact on staff | Some centres in Powys have a higher number of Welsh speaking staff and customers due to the location. It is unknown what percentage of the staff at the Knighton Sports Centre speak Welsh. | Unknown | Unknow | |
| People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation. | The removal of Knighton Sports Centre would not encourage people to do more sport and recreation. In fact it would be taking away opportunities for people to do so and make it more difficult for some to access those opportunities. | Very Poor | Very Poo | Knighton Feedback Report – respondents were critical of the proposal to remove opportunities to take part in sport, with 114 comments on the importance in terms of health and well-being. 53 responses cited transport as an impediment to accessing other sport/leisure opportunities |

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).



| Age | The proposal to close the centre could have a more detrimental impact on the young and the old, as they would be the age groups that may find it most difficult to access leisure facilities in another town due to a lack of access to a car or public transport. | Very Poor | Very Poor | Knighton Feedback Report – there was much concern raised about the impact on school children and their access to swimming lessons. 93 comments on this alone. Some felt children would be put at risk by the decision to close. There was also a big response from older people who regularly use the centre to access fitness and social opportunities. 53 comments were also made about lack of transport being an issue with travelling to an alternative leisure centre. |
|---------------------|--|-----------|-----------|--|
| Disability | The proposal to close the centre could have a more detrimental impact on people with disabilities, as they may find it most difficult to access leisure facilities in another town. | Very Poor | Very Poor | Knighton Feedback report – Some disabled residents stated they couldn't access public transport to travel to other facilities. |
| Gender reassignment | No known impact. | Neutral | Neutral | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |



| Marriage or civil partnership | No known impact. | Neutral | Neutr | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |
|-------------------------------|---|---------|-------|---|
| Race | No known impact. | Neutral | Neutr | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |
| Religion or belief | No known impact. | Neutral | Neutr | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |
| Sex | No known impact | Neutral | Neutr | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |
| Sexual Orientation | No known impact. | Neutral | Neutr | The engagement and consultation process did not highlight any known issues. |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | Knighton Sports Centre hosts classes and groups specifically for parent and toddlers, ladies and family groups. If the centre were to close this would mean people having to travel further to access those services, which may not be an option for all. | Poor | Poor | |

PCC: Impact Assessment Toolkit (Feb 2016)



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? | 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 |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Sustainable Development Principle (5 w | ays of working) | | | | |
| Long Term: Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. | Closing Knighton Sports Centre may enable short-term financial savings to be found, however, it may have a long term impact for the town in terms of jobs, opportunities, health and well-being. | Poor | | Poor | Knighton feedback Report - concerns were raised about the systematic reduction in services in Knighton and the area. This was starting to have a detrimental effect with people talking about moving away from the area. With an ageing population and declining pupil numbers residents felt the proposal would do little to encourage families to stay in the town. 114 comments centred on the negative impact on health and well-being. |
| Collaboration: Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions. | | Neutral | | Neutral | |



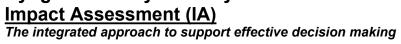
| Principle | How does the policy / change objective impact on this principle? | IMPACT Please select from drop down box below | What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts? | IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below | Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them. | Consultation was held regarding the proposal to close Knighton Sports Centre. A day-time afternoon drop-in session was attended by more than 150 people. More than 475 people attended an early evening public meeting. Information was made available on the 'Have Your Say' webpages. Social media (Facebook and Twitter) were used to promote the consultation and the events being held. There was good media coverage. The consultation deadline was extended due to public demand and interest in the proposal. In total around a thousand residents — predominantly from Knighton but with a number from Presteigne and surrounding towns including those over the border — contributed their views on the proposal. With more than 2,500 people signing petitions against the closure. With a total population of 3,020 residents in Knighton this gives a response rate of around 30 - 33%. Note: It is not possible to give a precise response rate as there were residents from outside of Knighton who gave their views and there will also be a number of people who may have attended the drop in session, written in, emailed and attended the public | Good | | Good | Knighton Consultation Feedback Report |

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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 |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | meeting who were Knighton residents and have been counted more than once. However it is clear that the response rate is robust and a good representation of the community as a whole. | | | | |
| Prevention: Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring. | | Neutral | | Neutral | |

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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 |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Integration: Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives. | The proposal to close Knighton Sports Centre would not have a positive impact on wellbeing goals. Closing the centre would be removing options for people to access leisure facilities in Powys. There would be a significant impact on school children, especially those from Knighton Church of Wales Primary School who access the pool weekly. Those children would have to travel to access swimming opportunities, children from other schools may have to travel further. This will mean additional travel costs (which would need to be met by either the school or parents) and additional school learning time being lost during that travel. Reducing access to leisure facilities would hinder the work of the PtHB in terms of preventative health and well-being objectives. It would also hinder other community and youth groups who access the facilities. | Poor | | Poor | Knighton Feedback Report – respondents clearly felt that the pool/centre were very important for their health and well-being, with 114 comments on this issue. Concerns were also raised about the loss of a facility used extensively by community groups as a base. A large percentage of respondents talked about the negative impact on children and young people in terms of accessing swimming lessons. There were 93 comments received on this issue alone. |

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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. | Closing the centre could mean jobs being lost. Freedom Leisure provide an 'Access to Fitness' scheme available to people who receive certain benefits, carers, armed forces veterans. Closing the centre would mean these opportunities being lost in Knighton. Those living in poverty may not have the means to travel to other facilities to access those opportunities. | Poor | | Poor | Knighton Feedback report – the consultation highlighted that people felt the proposal would have a negative impact on the local economy and jobs. Availability of transport (private or public) to access other leisure centres was another major issue highlighted in the consultation. |
| 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. | | Neutral | | Neutral | |
| Corporate Parenting: Enabling our looked after children to fulfil their potential. | Freedom Leisure as part of the contract offer 50% concessionary fees to Looked After Children. Freedom Leisure work with partner agencies i.e. social services to understand demand. This would be lost in Knighton if the centre were to close. Looked after children may not have the means to travel to access other leisure facilities. | Poor | | Poor | |
| Impact on PCC Workforce | n/a as staff are employed by Freedom Leisure. | Neutral | | Neutral | |

PCC: Impact Assessment Toolkit (Feb 2016)

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Choose an item.

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

| Impact on Service / Council | Risk to delivery of Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving | Inherent Risk |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Medium | Medium | Medium |

6. What are the risks to service delivery or the council following implementation of this Policy / Change Objective / Budget Saving?

Description of risks

Required additional £200k saving for 2017/18 will have an impact on management fee paid to Freedom Leisure over life of the contract.

Reputational risk to PCC in closing a facility – staff / public

Financial penalties for Council to reduce leisure portfolio for Freedom Leisure

Freedom Leisure being asked to relinquish a centre may result in loss of income / participation, which contribute to overall figures / commitments in contract

A community in Powys will have leisure provision removed - Residents in the community where provision removed will have to travel further to access another facility

Judgement (to be included in project risk register)

| Very High Risk | High Risk | Medium Risk | Low Risk | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| | | Medium Risk | | | |
| Mitigating Actions | | | Residual Risk (after mitigation) | | |
| | | | 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

Schools Service – Reduced school swimming opportunities for 1 Powys school and others over the border in England. Possibility to empty building co-located on a school site.

Property Services – if centre were to close the buildings would be handed to Property Services to decide on their future

Adult Social Care – access to local residents for services / health intervention programmes

Health Service – residents in locality of proposals would need to be proactive & encouraged to travel to next centre

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7. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)

Cabinet Report Reference:

The decision to close Knighton Sports Centre would have negative impacts for the community and residents of Knighton. There would be reduced access to leisure facilities, reduced opportunities for improving health and well-being through being active, the removal of opportunities for social and community groups to meet, and possible job losses. The consultation highlighted the negative impact on children, young people and the elderly of Knighton community. Those will the least opportunity to travel to alternative facilities would be the most negatively impacted by the proposal.

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?

Cabinet are due to make a decision on this proposal on 20th December 2016. On-going monitoring arrangements to be agreed if the decision is taken to close Knighton Sports Centre.

Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.

Cabinet are due to make a decision on this proposal on 20th December 2016. To be reviewed following that decision.

10. Sign Off

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

FORM ENDS