

Appendix 5

**West Rhyl Green Space Development
09/12/2013**

Equality Impact Assessment

West Rhyl Green Space Development

Contact: Carol Evans, Economic and Business Development
Updated: <DD.MM.YY>

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A project proposal

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

The development of the Green Space in West Rhyl is an integral part of the larger West Rhyl Housing Improvement Project. This project received Cabinet approval in October 2010 and September 2012. This is a tripartate project in partnership with Clwyd Alyn Housing Association and Welsh Government and is funded by Welsh Government. Denbighshire County Council are leading on the Green Space development. The development will result in a change to the community of West Rhyl through the compulsory purchase of properties in the area required for the Green Space and their subsequent demolition.

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

Yes

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

It has been well documented since the early 1990s that Rhyl's problems, like most other British seaside towns are the issues created by the decline in tourism and change of use from B&Bs and guest houses to poorly managed HMOs, bringing with it a raft of social problems. These issues were recognised in the North Wales Coast Regeneration Area (NWCRA) Action Plan and identified the opportunity to work in partnership with local housing associations to tackle the long standing problem of poorly converted, poorly heated and poorly managed HMOs. The masterplanning process which ensued responded to local community interests and aspirations and stakeholder views which were sought as part of the

process, and were reflected in the resulting final report
 Various methods of engagement were used, door to door interviews, use of the “Step up Bus” in various locations and public consultation sessions
 The resulting masterplan cited that the public wished to see less HMOs, more private ownership rather than private rented and more open, green space. The masterplan stated the case for radical action, as years of intervention and £millions had not tackled the root cause of the town’s issues, i.e. the health and social issues within the 4 walls of properties. These properties were still very large for any economic use other than as HMOs
 The masterplan required extensive property acquisition in order to facilitate demolition to create the open space, remodelling and refurbishment of existing properties and the potential for mixed use sites such as offices and new housing – more of which later

- 5. Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

The resulting Green Space will be available for access and use by all

- 6. Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

The proposal will have no negative impact on any of the above

- 7. Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

Yes	The proposal is intended to reduce or eliminate the negative perception the wider public has of the area. The area is close to public transport routes and footpaths leading to and at the space will be designed to enable access for all. The design will ensure security measures such as lighting, safety fencing to avoid children running into the street and wider traffic calming measures surrounding the park will be considered and addressed. In addition CCTV monitoring will be considered. Once the concept design is developed a further Equality Impact Assessment will be submitted prior to development of detailed design and planning submission
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8. Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?

Yes	The design of the Green Space will be as a result of community consultation events, and as far as is practicable reflect what the community wishes to see developed in the space
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Action(s)	Owner	By when?
Visioning Days (Community consultation)	Carol Evans Capita Symonds	10.12.13
Development of ideas into visual/concept design	Carol Evans Capita Symonds	14.1.14
Extensive Stakeholder engagement	Carol Evans	17.3.14
Cabinet approval of concept design	Carol Evans	14.1.14
Media exposure of concept design for comment	Carol Evans	3.3.14

9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	9/1/14
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Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
CAROL EVANS	9/12/14

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.