

Highway Structures Backlog Project

Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of a proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number:	123
Brief description:	The condition of numerous highway structures throughout the county is now such that numerous assets throughout the county require a weight restriction. This project is to address that backlog of work and reduce the number of affected assets within the county
Date Completed:	03/01/2017 16:09:15 Version: 2
Completed By:	James Hall
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Before we look in detail at the contribution and impact of the proposal, it is important to consider how the proposal is applying the sustainable development principle. This means that we must act "in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Score for the sustainability of the approach

Could some small changes in your thinking produce a better result?

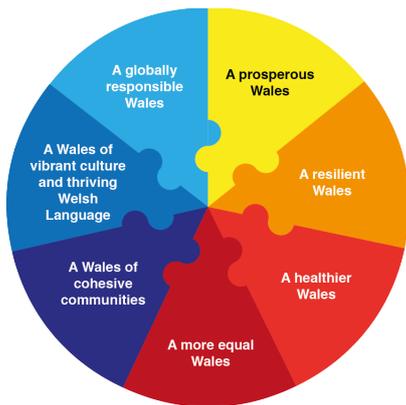
(3 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 20/ 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Positive
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

Maintaining highway infrastructure will preserve cultural and economic connectivity throughout the county and to the greater area.

It will ensure that emergency provision is maintained throughout the county.

It will preserve the economic prosperity of the county.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Maintaining an open and safe highway network will ensure economic and cultural ties are maintained throughout the county

Positive consequences identified:

Will negate the need for lengthy diversionary routes

Will negate the need for lengthy diversionary routes, thus affecting productivity and competitiveness

The project will employ many persons during its execution. It will also ensure that existing business' remain competitive.

Two apprentice positions will be created by implementing this proposal

Without a resilient highway structure infrastructure important links throughout the community will be severed or severely restricted. Supporting this project will see those existing links maintained.

Without implementing this project, educational transport will undoubtedly be affected by carriageway restrictions and closures

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Maintaining present economic growth may see an increase in travel throughout the county

Mitigating actions:

By ensuring that the work is programmed sensitively to limit temporary traffic restrictions will assist greatly in limiting negative consequences

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Resilience will be increased as highway routes and connectivity will be maintained

Positive consequences identified:

Works to address flood capacity of some structures will have a very positive influence upon the natural environment during times of flood

Environmental assessments will be carried out to determine whether the environment is affected on a site by site basis.

Listed structures and scheduled monuments will be preserved and protected for future generations

Preserving existing assets will make a substantial impact in terms of ensuring that the life expectancy of assets is increased, thus reducing new build

Ensuring that highway restrictions / closures are short lived, will reduce fuel consumption that the lengthy diversionary routes will require

Local consultation about the impact to local communities has already begun. For the larger schemes it is thought that interpretation boards will be employed to explain how the project benefit the environment and how DCC intend to preserve it's historic infrastructure.

Addressing the flood capacity of some of our assets will assist in the overall flood risk management throughout the county. It will also ensure that the counties highway network is more resilient during sever flood incidents and less roads will be closed during periods of high water as a consequence, thus ensuring emergency routes are kept.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Pointing a crumbling masonry structure does sometimes remove habitats for animals such as bats. In such instances this impact will be considered and relevant mitigation will be implemented.

Maintaining the existing highway alignment means that potential reduction of fuel consumption by considering more relevant shorter routes will lost

Mitigating actions:

Intervening in a timely manner before closing roads is the prime motive for this project.

Limiting the length of time required for temporary traffic management is also very important. Working sensitively with the structures at times of least risk,(ie summer) will also ensure minimum disruption.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The existing health infrastructure within Denbighshire and North Wales has developed based upon the current highway network in terms of providing a physical access / connection to the health service for the county. Adding considerable travelling time to those links could have very detrimental consequences.

Positive consequences identified:

Connectivity will maintain social interaction between communities

An open and safe highway network will maintain access to the local agricultural economy.

Maintaining a viable highway network will provide connectivity to Areas of outstanding natural beauty and thus reduce leisure activities such as walking and mountain biking

Connectivity will maintain peoples vital physical links to emergency and health services

Maintain emergency connectivity.

Ensure that healthcare is local

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Keep people informed as to what we are attempting to do.

Limit temporary disruption

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	A connected population to existing health services will maximise the efficiency of those services.

Positive consequences identified:

The proposed scheme will assist all of society however maintaining existing connectivity and access to services will assist people with protected characteristics, the most.

Maintaining highway connectivity will ensure that health inequalities are minimised.

Maintaining highway connectivity will ensure that existing commercial advantages remain in place

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	
Justification for Impact:	Emergency links will be preserved and the feeling of isolationism will be negated, by maintaining the highway links, throughout the county

Positive consequences identified:

Maintaining highway infrastructure will reduce the feeling of isolationism
Maintaining the highway infrastructure will maintain existing emergency routes and response times
Consultation about the impact of temporary weight restrictions has already taken place.
The historic landscape of the Counties highway structure infrastructure will be preserved
Connectivity to areas of outstanding natural beauty will be maintained

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Ease of access across the county will assist those who wish to take advantage of that infrastructure for illicit purposes.
Temporary disruption will be unavoidable
Numbers who have access to areas of outstanding natural beauty will be maintained, thus maintaining the current rate of interference upon the local landscape

Mitigating actions:

Ensure that temporary disruption is reduced to an absolute minimum at all times.
Consider alternative solutions to minimise disruption

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The project will preserve historic infrastructure It will preserve cultural links which will promote face to face contact thus enabling the growth of the Welsh language between communities.

Positive consequences identified:

Maintaining highway links will assist the public to travel and be exposed to more Welsh society

Maintaining the local highway infrastructure, will assist in the face to face connectivity necessary to promote the Welsh language

The project will preserve many listed and scheduled monuments.

The project will preserve cultural links across the county

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Should the existing highway infrastructure be closed / restricted then the impact upon both the local will be significant. The larger the number of closures / restrictions that allowed to occur then the wider impact will also grow.

Positive consequences identified:

The closure / restriction of the local highway infrastructure will have a dramatic effect on the economic well being of the immediate area and the greater supply chain

Closure / restriction of the local highway infrastructure will have an immediate impact upon almost every area of the services provision within specific areas

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Implement the project in full

ensure that each project considers the minimisation of temporary disruption

Consult with local populations and businesses with a view of minimising the impact of the projects.