



Development of the Public Services Board's Wellbeing Plan

Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report

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

Assessment Number:	78a
Brief description:	The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 requires that Public Services Boards develop a local Well-being Plan for their area. The statutory publication date is May 2018. The development of the plans requires a collaborative approach with partners across Conwy and Denbighshire. The project also contains the following work streams: engagement and consultation, needs assessment, joint priority setting.
Date Completed:	18/10/2017 16:40:37 Version: 9
Completed by:	Nicola Kneale
Responsible Service:	Business Improvement & Modernisation, Denbighshire Council
Localities affected by the proposal:	Conwy and Denbighshire

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 : 21 / 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



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

Main conclusions

This impact assessment considers the impact of our approach to developing the Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board's local Well-being Plan for the area. We have engaged our residents and worked with stakeholders to shape 6 priorities and the ambition for each. Our Sustainable Development score is strong, but also tells us there are some further considerations that need to be made as the detail of the plan is developed and delivered by the Board. This Plan does not outline any activity, only a direction of travel. We would expect that any projects taken forward to realise the ambition outlined within it are individually impact assessed. The local Well-being Plan will seek to support the first 1000 days of life, help those struggling with mental health, and promote resilience in older people, utilising early intervention and preventative approaches. However, we must be careful not to replicate good work already taking place elsewhere. We will also deliver a plan for community and environmental resilience through, in part, promoting understanding, access to information and maximising our assets. Our young people will also be supported to be resilient and aspirational, tackling barriers to skills, jobs, housing and educational inequality. However, we feel that the focus of the priorities is over the medium term. We need to ensure communities and stakeholders have continued opportunity to be involved in the development of the plan, and in its implementation. The proposed priorities are focussed on resilience for everyone and will prompt alternative approaches to prevent problems from occurring. Overall the impact on the 7 well-being goals is positive. We need more information to determine the impact on a more equal Wales, and crucially, what we can do to maximise a positive impact for people with protected characteristics. There are potentially negative consequences on some protected characteristics and these could be addressed and managed to avoid them occurring. We have found there to be a neutral impact on Welsh language and culture, but note that the Welsh Language Strategies of partner organisations underpins all that we do.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON CONWY AND DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Conwy and Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	There is plenty of scope to have significant positive impact on the prosperity of Conwy and Denbighshire.

Positive consequences identified:

We've not got detail at the moment but our proposed set of priorities highlights green technology in support of carbon reduction. This was very important to the community.

The proposed priorities around communities, young people and the environment will support our vision for the prosperity of our counties.

A priority focused on younger people aims to ensure that people in Conwy and Denbighshire have skills to work and access jobs. A focus on the environment could result in green job opportunities.

A stronger focus on community engagement could increase people's participation skills.

The draft priority around community hubs will be critical in ensuring the long term sustainability/resilience of communities (socially and economically).

Unintended negative consequences identified:

We would need to work with communities to understand their aspirations for our environment. Some solutions can be divisive.

There could be a focus on young people at the expense of other age groups.

We are not clear how the proposed priorities will impact on childcare. If working patterns in the area change, our childcare provision locally may not meet the needs of parents and carers.

Mitigating actions:

Ensure that any proposals are developed through the involvement of our communities.

A resilient Conwy & Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The overall impact is estimated to be positive. However, it is not yet clear if the priorities could result in a positive or detrimental impact on the environment, such as flooding or loss of habitat.

Positive consequences identified:

The current priorities reflect the strength of public feeling about our environment and the links to

well-being.

There is a pledge to manage flood risk and encourage communities to take responsibility for their environment.

Green technology for carbon reduction is highlighted in the current set of proposed priorities.

Having a priority around environmental issues could contribute to greater awareness and personal ownership of biodiversity and renewable technology.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Increased use of our environment may pose challenges in terms of safeguarding species. As projects are scoped to deliver the Well-being Plan, a loss of habitat could be a risk factor and should be monitored.

An opportunity to influence overall energy consumption may risk being missed.

Mitigating actions:

As work continues to clarify and confirm activity, we will re-evaluate impact on this goal and consider how it can be designed to remove negative impacts and maximise opportunities.

A healthier Conwy & Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The priorities are focussed on personal and community resilience and will contribute to improved health outcomes (physical and mental). There is potential to tackle health inequality (see "a more equal Conwy and Denbighshire"). However, we must be careful not to increase dependence on services.

Positive consequences identified:

Our priorities around supporting the first 1000 days, those struggling with mental health, and promoting resilience in older people should all contribute to improved mental and physical well-being outcomes for individuals. A focus on community hubs is also positive because they can support personal and community well-being. Teaching young people life-skills should also help enforce positive behaviours when it comes to eating, exercising and the consumption of drugs and alcohol. Advice on money management may also help reduce levels of stress and anxiety among young people.

The draft plan proposes to promote the consumption of local produce, which should have positive health benefits (as well as environmental benefits).

The draft environment priority encourages greater community participation with the environment, which should bring health benefits in terms of engagement with leisure activity and exercise.

Support for older and young people with housing could lead to measurable improvements in personal well-being.

Opportunities to change the way health care is delivered will be explored in the plan, aiming for communities and services that work better together.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

There is a risk that our focus on the first 1000 days of life, supporting those struggling with mental health, and promoting resilience in older people will replicate work that is already taking place elsewhere, and would not, therefore, be the best use of valued resources. We also risk creating a dependence on services.

Mitigating actions:

We recognise that there is scope for greater community involvement in the way services are delivered to meet their needs. We must seek their involvement as our plans develop.

A more equal Conwy & Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The overall impact is positive, though we recognise there may be areas of inequality that are not directly addressed through the PSB's plan. Poverty, for example, could continue to be a primary factor in inequality if the local economy grows/develops at a slower pace. Promoting access to housing or education for any one age group may limit access for others. We need to do some work to assess the impact of any proposed activities on people with protected characteristics, and this would happen as projects are developed.

Positive consequences identified:

The emerging priorities are addressing some known inequalities and issues in our counties (e.g. housing and young people, access to services) and the intention is to have a positive impact on people with protected characteristics. We know that supporting people with protected characteristics to access services will benefit their lives. For instance, supporting access to housing for the young and old could help with improved health outcomes. Making better use of our assets and community groups can have a recognised positive impact on disabled people, or people with limited access to goods and services.

A better range of stable jobs could result in better incomes and could lead to healthier lifestyles, and a reduction in ill-health (physical and mental). The emerging priorities intend to increase engagement/interaction with our natural environment, and to support children and young people with life skills and resilience.

A better range of stable jobs could result in better incomes. Supporting younger people to be "work ready" could help.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

A focus on young people's skills could be to the detriment of other age groups (for example, older people). We need to ensure that our priorities are underpinned by 'accessibility' - making best use of different approaches and technologies. There is a risk that projects do not take into account people's needs, and could have limited impact, for instance, if digital services are not designed to meet people's needs. If alternative service delivery models are developed, they would need to ensure that there is understanding and inclusion of people with protected characteristics. We don't know if there could be a disproportionate negative impact on people with protected characteristics, other than age/disability.

We need to understand and maximise where possible, opportunities to tackle poverty.

Mitigating actions:

The PSB must involve communities in the development of all its activities and look at those projects, as they are developed, in relation to the public equality duty and the potential impact (negative and positive) on people with protected characteristics.

In impact assessing any individual projects, the PSB should consider the key areas of inequality highlighted in the Well-being Assessment and seek the advice of hard to reach groups and equality expertise.

A Conwy and Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	People being active in their communities and participating emerged as big themes for our communities. The attractiveness of the environment was important to some people as well. Safe communities for children to play and safe facilities/safe places to live emerged to a limited extent, and was more important to some areas than others. We cannot foresee any negative impacts but this needs to be revisited as projects are developed.

Positive consequences identified:

There is a draft priority around promoting community hubs, which it is hoped will help create communities that are strong, caring, safe and resilient. Our priorities around the first 1000 days, older people and mental health also support a preventative approach to addressing health issues, as well as the promotion of community participation with the environment.

We want a continual conversation with our communities and we want them to get involved and have a say in improving services. We hope teaching young people life-skills, providing volunteer and work opportunities will lead to greater community participation.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

None currently identified, but will be reviewed as projects develop.

Mitigating actions:

It can be difficult to gain participation from certain communities of interest or place. The Public Services Board's plans around engagement and participation will hopefully help with community cohesion.

A Conwy and Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Some older people were concerned about not being able to access services/support through the medium of Welsh. Many people said they valued Welsh language and culture as an asset. The current set of priorities have the potential to make rural communities more attractive places in which to live and work - this could stem the outward migration of young (welsh-speaking) people, and also attract people into the communities. The overall impact remains to be seen and is, therefore, neutral.

Positive consequences identified:

Support for the Welsh language is a principle that will underpin all the work that we do, and our commitment to providing a bilingual service is captured in the Welsh Language policies of partners.

At present there tends to be an outward migration of young people, particularly from rural communities. It is hoped that work to support communities, business and housing will improve the viability of our rural communities as places to live and work. It remains to be seen whether this can affect the outward migration of young (Welsh speaking) people, but the work has the potential to reverse the decline.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

None currently identified, but this will be reviewed as projects develop.

Mitigating actions:

The impact of our work must be monitored as we progress. Any projects taken forward should be impact assessed for their impact on the Welsh language.

A globally responsible Conwy and Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Some people were interested in hub/satellite services and using assets so that they are multi-functional (e.g. a building could be a health clinic on a Monday, a court on a Tuesday), and using assets, like school mini-buses, when they are out of use during holidays. The potential for this is less clear although work on community hubs will involve better understanding how community assets are used. Our work to reduce carbon will have an impact on global plans to reduce carbon consumption and increase energy generation. Plans to promote local produce will also contribute positively here.

Positive consequences identified:

We need to find out if there could be positive impacts for local/national/international supply chains. There could be potential as the priorities develop. We might also consider potential positive impacts around employment practices and employer's responsibilities. A greater focus on well-being could impact on health services, housing, education, welfare, and environmental groups. Approaching these issues as a partnership will bring benefits.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

None currently identified, but this will be reviewed as projects develop.

Mitigating actions:

We need to explore the issues and opportunities highlighted above as projects develop.