

Consultation Document - Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Note: Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

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:	297
Brief description:	This guidance is primarily targeted at individuals proposing new development and for decision makers involved in the management of the AONB. The intention is to heighten awareness of the importance of the AONB, and, in so doing, raise the standard of new development and landscape design. It provides some general design principles which should be followed to assist new development proposals whether planning permission is required or not.
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Responsible Service:	Planning & Public Protection
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

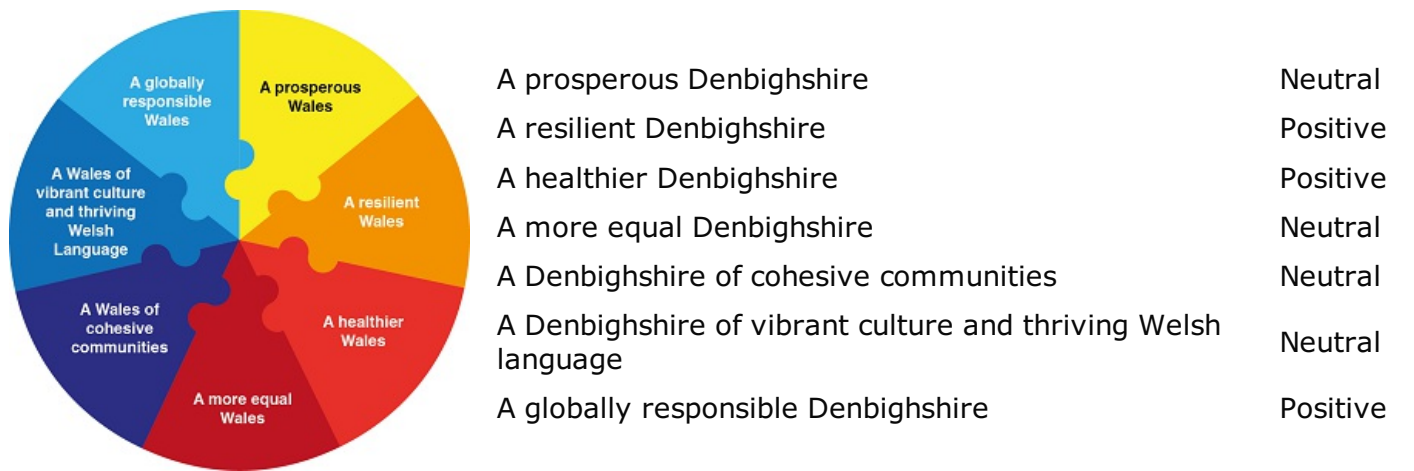
Could some small changes in your thinking produce a better result?



Actual score : 21 / 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



Main conclusions

The Well-being Assessment has shown that the draft SPG will assist in realising the seven well-being goals in a either neutral or positive way. Not all seven topics are applicable because of the very nature of the document, content, and specific limited audience – planning professionals and prospective applicants. It must also be kept in mind that Supplementary Planning Guidance is a material planning consideration but not a local policy. Identified unintended negative consequences should, if they appear depending on implementation, be dealt with through legislation and planning policies. There will be a need to revisit this Well-being Impact Assessment when the public consultation has been closed and amendments were made to the draft document. Note: Public consultation has closed now, and the content of the document was reassessed and accordingly amended.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	'A Prosperous Denbighshire' - topic area is not reflected in the content of the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance. It's planning guidance, not local policy.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

n/a

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The purpose of the draft SPG is to support the conservation and enhancement of the AONB's natural beauty and local landscape features, including the natural and the built environment.

Positive consequences identified:

The primary objective for designating Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) is the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, which is dependent on the natural environment. Post public consultation: Paragraphs were amended to strengthen a reduction in light pollution to avoid adverse effects on local wildlife and habitat.

The draft AONB SPG supports the provisions contained in Planning Policy Wales Edition 9, paragraph 4.11.10 – 'In areas recognised for their landscape (...) Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (...) and more widely in areas with an established and distinctive design character, it can be appropriate to seek to promote or reinforce traditional and local distinctiveness. In those areas the impact of development on the existing character, the scale and siting of new development, and the use of appropriate building materials (including where possible sustainably produced materials from local sources), will be particularly important. The impact of development on listed buildings should be given particular attention.'

Draft AONB SPG specifically highlights the benefits of(re-) using traditional building materials in the proposed development and, hence, promotes recycling to minimise waste.

Prospective applicants are made aware of the environment and biodiversity in being asked to reflect on local landscape features in their planning proposal.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Whilst the SPG is planning guidance and can be a material consideration, national / local planning policies provide the Council with powers to minimise unintended negatives and to promote positive outcomes.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB is likely to have a positive effect on the mental well-being of people enjoying the area.

Positive consequences identified:

Natural beauty is generally perceived as having a positive effect on the health and well-being of local people.

Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area will also raise the attractiveness of the area for walkers, cyclists, and runners.

The purpose of the draft SPG is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area which is perceived as having a positive effect on emotions and mental well-being.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Pressure on local infrastructure, including the environment, from increasing number of people participating in leisure opportunities.

Mitigating actions:

Minimising potential adverse effects on the local infrastructure caused by increased number of visitors should be addressed in a separate tourism strategy or the adopted AONB management plan.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	'A more equal Denbighshire' - topic area is not reflected in the content of the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance. Nevertheless, the Council may have regard to the provisions of for example the Equality Act 2010, depending on the nature of the proposal.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

If negative effects should occur as a result of guidance contained in the document, i.e. discrimination, those matters would be addressed with help of the Equality Act 2010 and related Regulations.

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	The draft SPG does not deal with safe communities and community participation. There is a specific SPG on this topic - Planning for Community Safety.

Positive consequences identified:

AONBs are designed because of their natural beauty which is also understood as the attractiveness of the area.

Unintended negative consequences identified:**Mitigating actions:**

n/a

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	The draft SPG looks at preserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and, consequently, maintaining the heritage of a Welsh area but it does not specifically provides for the Welsh language.

Positive consequences identified:

The 'natural beauty' of the AONB is defined by a mixture of natural and built environment which has been shaped by human activities over the last centuries and, hence, reflects local heritage.

Unintended negative consequences identified:**Mitigating actions:**

n/a

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The Council, the Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate will give substantial weight to approved SPGs which derives from, and is consistent with the LDP, and has been subject of consultation. (Planning Policy Wales, Edition 9, paragraph 2.3.4)

Positive consequences identified:

The adopted SPG will assist Planning Officers in the DCC Development Management section and the AONB Joint Advisory Committee in determining planning applications for the area.

Unintended negative consequences identified:**Mitigating actions:**