

East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme

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:	239
Brief description:	Coastal defence works at east Rhyl to reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion.
Date Completed:	05/05/2017 15:09:15 Version: 1
Completed By:	Wayne Hope
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Rhyl,

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?

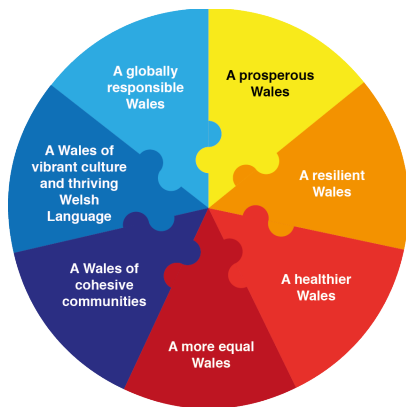
(3 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 23/ 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



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

Main conclusions

The aim of the project is to reduce flood risk in east Rhyl. Provided this aim is fulfilled, the result will be a more prosperous, resilient, healthy, equal and globally responsible Denbighshire.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The current and ongoing risk of flooding of properties has a significant negative impact on the prosperity of the county, as demonstrated by the floods that affected the region in 2012 and 2013. Therefore, the project will have a positive impact.

Positive consequences identified:

Reducing the risk of flooding will reduce the impacts that flooding has in relation to post flooding clear up operations, including repairs and refurbishment of properties.

Flood risk is understood to have a negative impact on the economic prosperity of communities, Therefore, reducing flood risk will have a positive impact.

The project involves heavy civil engineering work which will provide an opportunity for local employment in that sector. Reduced flood risk will encourage potential future employers to invest in the area.

Coastal engineering is a specialism and the project has the potential to enable to development of local skills in this field.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

By developing a scheme that protects as many properties as possible to the highest economically achievable standard .

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The project will make east Rhyl more resilient to future flood events.

Positive consequences identified:

The project will be carried out in a way that ensures that there are minimal negative impacts on the natural environment.

There may be opportunities to improve biodiversity in the built environment.

Flooding of properties creates a large amount of contaminated, non-recyclable waste. The project will reduce this likelihood.

Post flood clear up operations use a considerable amount of energy/fuel.

There are strong links between flooding and climate change (sea level rise). The project will draw these issues to the attention of Denbighshire residents.

The project will reduce the likelihood of flooding in east Rhyl.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Through consultation with the Council's Countryside Service team and Natural Resources Wales.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The project is likely to result in improved opportunities for beach based leisure activities and will have a beneficial impact on the mental well-being of residents currently at risk of flooding.

Positive consequences identified:

The existing beach at this location is occasionally stripped of sand due to coastal erosion. The project should reduce this likelihood and will conserve a sandy beach.

There's an opportunity to improve the quality of the existing beach at east Rhyl, which will encourage greater use by residents and tourists.

Peoples concerns and fears of being flooded have a significant impact on their emotional and mental well-being. The project will significantly reduce this likelihood.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

By working with local residents and community groups as the project develops to ensure that residents fears and concerns are recognised and addressed,

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The project will have the greatest positive impact on the most vulnerable members of the community.

Positive consequences identified:

People with protected characteristics are our most vulnerable residents during a flood event. Reducing the risk of flooding will improve their well-being.

One of the consequences of flooding is high insurance costs, which could result in poverty. The project could make properties cheaper to insure.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Reducing flood risk will improve the strength and long term viability of the community.

Positive consequences identified:

Following previous flood events, crime e.g., burglary, has been an issue during the recovery phase. Reducing the likelihood of flooding will have a positive impact.

There is already a strong community in east Rhyl, with a good knowledge of flood risk. The community will be engaged with as the project develops.

There is an opportunity to enhance the appearance of the area, although the construction of an offshore breakwater could be controversial in terms of its visual impact.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	The project will maximise the use of the local supply chain, including employment, skills and materials.

Positive consequences identified:

It's likely that the project will maximise the use of the local supply chain.
Procurement will be carried out with due cognisance of human rights law.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Liaise with colleagues in procurement and ensure that the Council's policies are adhered to.