

Childcare Capital Grant projects

Well-being Impact Assessment Report


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

Assessment Number:	515
Brief description:	Denbighshire was successful with the submission and was able to draw down £2,907,772 from the Child Care Capital Grant for improvements in facilities through construction projects. Following these approvals feasibility work was commissioned for individual projects included in the submission. As of the spring the cost estimates forecasted a cumulative overspend of £1,012,934 across three projects – Oaktree Centre, Cylch provision at Ysgol Twm o’r Nant and Cylch provision at Ysgol Dewi Sant. At the same time the approved project for the Welsh Language Centre was projecting a financial underspend in the region of £700k. As a result an application was submitted to Welsh Government seeking permission to reallocate funding to enable these three projects to proceed by reallocating the resources from the Welsh Language Centre and seeking additional resources as a top up from the Welsh Government.
Date Completed:	18/09/2018 12:04:51 Version: 2
Completed by:	James Wood
Responsible Service:	Education & Children Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	Childcare Settings, eligible children and their parents & the Local Education Authority - Early Education providers e.g. childcare settings & schools.
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	Yes

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

 (3 out of 4 stars) Actual score : 20 / 30.

Implications of the score

The Education and Children Service has led on the grant for the County consulting with partners including the Family Information Service and the Cwlwm organisations representing the childcare sector in Denbighshire.

The Childcare Grant aims to support the implication of the Childcare Offer for Wales which aims to allow eligible parents to have more employment choices, increase their disposable income to help counteract poverty for those in low-paid jobs and ensure that quality early education and childcare is provided to promote child development and school readiness.

Proceed with all three identified projects subject to the decision by Welsh Government to approve the application to reallocate their funding will enable the identified benefits to be realised including ensuring sufficiency of available childcare and safeguarding Welsh medium childcare provision in Rhyl and Denbigh.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

A prosperous Denbighshire

A resilient Denbighshire

A healthier Denbighshire

A more equal Denbighshire

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Positive

Neutral

Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive



Main conclusions

This Wellbeing Assessment related to our proposals for an application to the Welsh Government Childcare Capital Grant scheme. At this stage we are seeking input and approval from SIG regarding these proposals which we are intended to have a positive impact as they have all been developed to address identified deficits in childcare in Denbighshire. The future sustainability and development of the childcare sector has been our primary focus and our proposals aim to support the county and sector in managing the expected increase in demand for childcare places as a result of the implementation of the Childcare Offer for Wales.

Evidence to support the Well-being Impact Assessment

- We have consulted published research or guides that inform us about the likely impact of the proposal
- We have involved an expert / consulted a group who represent those who may affected by the proposal
- We have engaged with people who will be affected by the proposal

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The application has secured approximately £2.4 million investment in the childcare sector in Denbighshire. The proposed project focus on securing the sustainability of Welsh Language places and improving the sustainability and quality of Foundation Phase Early Education provision. The proposals support the wider aim to prepare for the implantation and development of the Childcare Offer for Wales in Denbighshire over the next 3 years.
Further actions required	We aim to maximise the potential benefits and mitigate the possible negative impacts, such as displacement, through continued partnership working and consultation with the Cwlwm Organisations representing the childcare sector in Denbighshire. This will ensure that all proposal and plans are considered from multiple aspects by stakeholders to identify issues and negotiate solutions.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	Any new builds will include energy efficient technology.
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	In the main proposed projects are making best use of existing land e.g. schools to create sustainability of a childcare setting.
Economic development	If successful the grant funding will lead to the development and sustainability of the childcare sector, securing and creating jobs, both in the short term (in terms of building works) and long term in terms of the childcare sector.
Quality skills for the long term	The small grants schemes for Childminder and the Foundation Phase Early Education will aim to develop literacy and numeracy skills, early communication skills, to promote Digital Literacy and Digital Responsibility, and to enhance and develop the outdoor learning environment which would in turn support the development of physical literacy skills. The bid for the Oaktree Centre also contains a proposal to develop the Integrated Childcare Centre as a centre of excellence which will support the childcare workforce in Denbighshire by provide training and advice to settings.
Quality jobs for the long term	The projects will support the sustainability and grown of the childcare sector in Denbighshire.
Childcare	The projects will secure and grow the number of childcare places in Denbighshire, providing more choice for parents.

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	The building works will lead to increase emissions in some localities for a short period of time. There will be a transfer of road traffic to the new locations and possibly an small increase in those settings that are successful in the bid.
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Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	There is a small chance of displacement of children from one setting to another, causing a negative impact on a childcare setting. However, this has been discussed for each proposed project and will be reviewed in consultation with Childcare organisation and local settings if the application is successful.
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	There is a small chance of displacement of children from one setting to another, causing a negative impact on a childcare setting. However, this has been discussed for each proposed project and will be reviewed in consultation with Childcare organisation and local settings if the application is successful.

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	All projects are taking place on existing sites and the impact on biodiversity is minimal as all sites are already developed land.
Further actions required	The flood consequence assessments has impacted the design for each building and have mitigated each site.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	These will be assessed for those applications that are successful where possible the design with address any negative impact identified.
Biodiversity in the built environment	These will be assessed for those applications that are successful where possible the design with address any negative impact identified.
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	For those projects involving a relocation of a childcare setting the processing of waste generated by the setting e.g. nappies, food waste, paper and cardboard will be considered to ensure sustainable waste management systems are considered and impended.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	Some of the application may lead to a reduction in fuel/energy consumption. Two of thee applications relate to the relocation of provision due to unsuitable venues in poor condition. These moves to purpose built venues will be significantly more energy efficient than the current venues, mainly old chapel buildings.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	Not considered applicable.
Flood risk management	These will be assessed for those applications that are successful where possible the design with address any negative impact identified.

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	Potentially there could be negative impacts but these would need to be explored for those projects which are awarded grant funds to develop.
Biodiversity in the built environment	Potentially there could be negative impacts but these would need to be explored for those projects which are awarded grant funds to develop.
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	The re-location of any setting will lead to an increase in waste produced in one location. This will impact on existing waste management processes that exist on the sites that are being developed.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	There will be an increase in children accessing good quality childcare and holiday activities in settings with suitable facilities, such as outdoor play and kitchens to prepare healthy meals and snacks.
Further actions required	N/A

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	The applications for grant funding are to secure more suitable venues for childcare provision and to secure funding to develop Early Education provision. These projects all contain the potential to support children to access opportunities for outdoor play and will be governed by policies, such as the healthy pre-school initiative, that focus on healthy food and exercise.
Access to good quality, healthy food	Several of the projects that form part of this application will possibly lead to more children having access to good quality health food when attending these provisions.
People's emotional and mental well-being	Several of the projects that are part of the application aim to increase access to childcare during the school holidays. These will contain a focus on play, creative and physical activity, including games, sport, swimming, dancing and other activities associated with play schemes. These projects will also aim to create social, emotional and language development skills as a core part of their provision.
Access to healthcare	N/A
Participation in leisure opportunities	Several of the projects that are part of the application aim to increase access to childcare during the school holidays. These will contain a focus on play, creative and physical activity, including games, sport, swimming, dancing and other activities associated with play schemes.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	None
Access to good quality, healthy food	None
People's emotional and mental well-being	None
Access to healthcare	N/A
Participation in leisure opportunities	None

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The Childcare offer will provide additional support to childcare settings to deliver accessible provision for children with additional needs.
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation	<p>The Childcare Offer is available to all eligible parents and has been designed in such a way to take account of the barriers that may face eligible parents who have children with SEN. To ensure the offer is inclusive to eligible children with SEN for the early implementation period additional support will be available.</p> <p>Two elements of the grant funding being applied for are small grant schemes which settings will be able to apply for small grants for equipment. This would include equipment that improved accessibility or inclusivity in a setting, provides specific support to a child with additional needs and/or to provide staff working at these settings with training in the skills needed to care for children who need additional support.</p> <p>The Childcare Offer is available to working parents of 3 and 4 years olds, although there are exceptions where children would be eligible for the Childcare Offer even if the parent are not in work. These would be if one parent has significant caring responsibilities or if one parent is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits.</p>
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	The Childcare Offer is a provision available to all working parents of 3 and 4 year olds.
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	The Childcare Offer is a Universal provision available to all working parents of 3 and 4 year olds.
People in poverty	The Childcare Offer will provide significant support for those in-work poverty. The Childcare Offer can provide savings of up to £5,000 per child for eligible children.

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	The children of parents who do not work will not be able to access the Childcare Offer and as such their children may not benefit from the programme.
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Additional childcare, particularly where it is co-located with a primary school have the potential to improve links within the local community. Three of the proposals relate to not for profit childcare provision which will be governed by a committee drawn from the local community which will help to integrate the childcare setting into the wider community. All the settings proposed must be registered with the Care Inspectorate Wales who will regulate and inspect settings regarding, safeguarding children and qualifications of staff.
Further actions required	The potential negative impacts of the re-location or expansion of the settings will be addressed through the planning process.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	More children will have access to childcare. Children having involvement outside the family environment is a protective factor. The setting providing childcare will be regulated and inspected by the Care Inspectorate Wales, including issues such as qualifications of staff and processes to safeguard children.
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Community participation and resilience	<p>The provision that the grant funding is being applied for will primarily support young families. However these settings, particularly those co-located with primary schools have the potential to become informal community hubs.</p> <p>Three of the proposals relate to not for profit childcare provision which will be governed by a committee drawn from the local community. This will help to integrate the childcare setting into the wider community.</p>
The attractiveness of the area	Childcare settings are generally colourful and attractive buildings and grounds.
Connected communities	Several of the proposals in the applications will improve access to childcare and potentially reduce travel for some families by relocating current provisions and co-locating them in schools providing the benefit of wrap-around childcare provision that does not currently exist.
Rural resilience	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	Some people may be unhappy about increased noise from children playing outside at these new settings.
Connected communities	Some parents may have to travel slightly further to access their current childcare provision. However given the proposed distances we believe this is negligible.
Rural resilience	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The funding will increase the number of 3 and 4 year olds accessing Welsh Medium childcare which will give children a good grounding in Welsh Language from which to develop in their later education. Bilingualism offers children the opportunity to experience two different cultures and enrich their Welsh identity. Welsh-medium education will ensure that children grow to be completely bilingual and open up a rich world of culture, and opportunities.
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	<p>6 of the 7 elements of the expression of interest relate to securing or expending the deliver of Welsh Medium Childcare in Denbighshire.</p> <p>We believe that, if successful in securing funding, this will increase the number of 3 and 4 year olds accessing Welsh Medium childcare which will give children a good grounding in Welsh Language from which to develop in their later education.</p>
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Promoting the Welsh language	Please see above.
Culture and heritage	<p>3 of the settings forming part of our application will be supported by Mudiad Meithrin.</p> <p>Mudiad Meithrin is a voluntary organisation and is the main provider of Welsh-medium early years care and education in the voluntary sector. Our aim is to give every young child in Wales the opportunity to benefit from early years care and education experiences through the medium of Welsh.</p>

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	<p>The Childcare Offer is likely to lead to an increase in children attending childcare which will create more jobs within the childcare sector in Denbighshire. Element of the grant funding aim to support development within the Welsh Medium and Childminder parts or the sector, specifically.</p> <p>The Childcare Offer and several of the proposals we are applying for Capital Funding for are likely to impact on three of the corporate priorities - Young People, Resilient Communities and Connected Communities. Young families will have access to government funded childcare (for 3 and 4 years olds) to enable them to have more choice in employment. The Childcare offer will be worth around £5,000 a year per child for those working families which will have a significant impact on their family finance and improved resilience. The proposed project also have a specific focus on developing new provision in areas that currently lack childcare services, in particular rural and disadvantaged areas and on supporting the co-location of existing Foundation Phase provision with the new Childcare Offer provision on a single site, which will improve the provision of wrap around childcare.</p>
Further actions required	None identified.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	The Childcare Offer is likely to lead to an increase in children attending childcare which will create more jobs within the childcare sector in Denbighshire. Element of the grant funding aim to support development within the Welsh Medium and Childminder parts or the sector, specifically.
Human rights	The Welsh Government adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) as the basis for policy making for children and young people in Wales in 2004. The UNCRC had underpinned the development of the Welsh Government Free Childcare Offer.

<p>Broader service provision in the local area or the region</p>	<p>The Childcare Offer and several of the proposals we are applying for Capital Funding for are likely to impact on three of the corporate priorities - Young People, Resilient Communities and Connected Communities. Young families will have access to government funded childcare (for 3 and 4 years olds) to enable them to have more choice in employment. The Childcare offer will be worth around £5,000 a year per child for those working families which will have a significant impact on their family finance and improved resilience. The proposed project also have a specific focus on developing new provision in areas that currently lack childcare services, in particular rural and disadvantaged areas and on supporting the co-location of existing Foundation Phase provision with the new Childcare Offer provision on a single site, which will improve the provision of wrap around childcare.</p>
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Negative impacts identified:

<p>Local, national, international supply chains</p>	
<p>Human rights</p>	
<p>Broader service provision in the local area or the region</p>	