



Public Participation Strategy: 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: 1178

Brief description: We are impact assessing the Council's proposed Public Participation Strategy. It is a legislative requirement for all principle councils/unitary local authorities in Wales to produce a Public Participation Strategy to satisfy the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. In brief the Strategy must address: • Ways of promoting awareness among local people of the principal council's functions; • Ways of promoting awareness among local people of how to become a member of the principal council, and what membership entails; • Ways of facilitating access for local people to information about decisions made, or to be made, by the principal council; • Ways of promoting and facilitating processes by which local people may make representations to the principal council about a decision before, and after, it is made; • Arrangements made, or to be made, for the purpose of the council's duty in section 62 of the 2011 Measure (bringing views of the public to attention of overview and scrutiny committees); • Ways of promoting awareness among members of the principal council of the benefits of using social media to communicate with local people. Principal Councils are required to consult with the local community in developing and reviewing the Public Participation Strategy. This strategy must be reviewed at least once after every ordinary local government election.

Date Completed: [TEXT HERE] Version: 0

Completed by: [TEXT HERE]

Responsible Service: Corporate Support Service: People

Public Participation Strategy

Localities affected by the proposal: Whole County,

Who will be affected by the proposal? The proposal affects Denbighshire County Council officers who facilitate public participation in decision-making, it affects County Councillors and it affects residents or other members of the public who wish to be involved in how Denbighshire County Council makes decisions which affect them

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? Yes

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 : 26 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

The Strategy once in place must be reviewed after every ordinary Council election. We are impacting assessing a Strategy, therefore some of the questions relating to capital works projects (e.g. highways infrastructure) are not relevant in this case.

Prevention

The Strategy aims to facilitate public participation in Council decision-making. Where the Council aims to co-produce services with local communities this will promote independence, however where the Strategy requires the Council to facilitate involvement in the democratic process (e.g. by standing to become a Councillor) the strategy will promote other ways of working.

Integration

The LDP has its own engagement process. The development of the Public Participation Strategy may make it easier for people to get involved in participation processes to support the development of the LDP but this is not a specific aim of this Strategy. The Strategy will aim to make a positive contribution to peoples' overall wellbeing by ensuring they are empowered to get involved in decisions which impact their lives

Collaboration

Public Participation Strategy

The strategy development will be supported by a comprehensive research programme which includes consulting with teams from around the authority as well as a period of public consultation.

Involvement

We have carried out stakeholder mapping to ensure that everyone who wants to contribute to the development of a Participation Strategy is facilitated to have their say

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Neutral
A healthier Denbighshire	Neutral
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Positive
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Neutral
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Neutral

Main conclusions

Overall the Public Participation Strategy will have a net positive impact on themes around a more equal Denbighshire, a Denbighshire of cohesive communities and a resilient Denbighshire. This is because increased public awareness of principal council functions and aiming to increase public participation in corporate decision-making processes should lead to a greater percentage of people within communities being empowered to get involved in decisions which affect them.

Public Participation Strategy

It has neutral or no impact on themes around global responsibility, prosperity, health, Welsh language or the Welsh culture

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Flexibility in the means of participation enables greater participation

Further actions required

[TEXT HERE]

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

More engagement online, reducing travel need

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

The Strategy would aim to work in conjunction with other policies to facilitate greater online involvement and digital literacy

Economic development

Local voice coming through in council decision-making may present opportunities to support the local economy

Quality skills for the long term

Participation does improve community capacity

Quality jobs for the long term

N/A

Childcare

Virtual participation options may allow those with caring or childcaring responsibilities to get involved in Council decision-making

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

Where groups are identified who need more support to get involved, if we are facilitating this, there could be a net negative carbon impact

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

N/A

Economic development

[TEXT HERE]

Quality skills for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Quality jobs for the long term

N/A

Childcare

N/A

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The Public Participation Strategy would have a neutral impact on A Resilient Denbighshire because it has no direct impact on the environment or biodiversity.

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

N/A

Biodiversity in the built environment

N/A

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

N/A

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

N/A

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

N/A

Flood risk management

N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

N/A

Biodiversity in the built environment

N/A

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

N/A

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

N/A

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

N/A

Flood risk management

N/A

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The primary purpose of the Participation Strategy will have no impact on improving people's physical health and mental health and wellbeing

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

N/A

Access to good quality, healthy food

N/A

People's emotional and mental well-being

The Strategy aims to ensure that people are empowered to get involved in making decisions which impact them, which may have a positive impact on their mental health.

Access to healthcare

N/A

Participation in leisure opportunities

N/A

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

N/A

Access to good quality, healthy food

N/A

People's emotional and mental well-being

A small risk that known barriers to engagement and participation continue to be an issue whilst the council works toward improvements

Access to healthcare

N/A

Participation in leisure opportunities

N/A

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Overall the Participation Strategy aims to identify gaps where people are not participating in decisions which affect them, and ensure that they are facilitated to get involved and have their say if they wish to do so.

Further actions required

[TEXT HERE]

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

The Participation Strategy should identify any areas where people with protected characteristics are currently unable to participate in meaningful engagement, and set out ways to improve or remove these barriers.

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

The Participation Strategy should consider any disadvantages within communities and seek to equalise these, as far as getting involved in Council decision-making and public life is concerned

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

The Participation Strategy should consider any disadvantages within communities and seek to equalise these, as far as getting involved in Council decision-making and public life is concerned

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

N/A

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

None

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

None

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

[TEXT HERE]

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

N/A

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The Participation Strategy aims to build the confidence of individuals and communities to get

involved and have their say in decisions that impact them.

Further actions required

[TEXT HERE]

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

N/A

Community participation and resilience

The Participation Strategy will encourage communities to take a more active role in how the council designs, develops and delivers services which meet their needs

The attractiveness of the area

N/A

Connected communities

N/A

Rural resilience

N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

N/A

Community participation and resilience

None

The attractiveness of the area

N/A

Connected communities

N/A

Rural resilience

N/A

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The Public Participation Strategy has no direct impact on the Welsh language and the Welsh culture

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

N/A

Promoting the Welsh language

N/A

Culture and heritage

N/A

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

N/A

Promoting the Welsh language

N/A

Culture and heritage

N/A

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The Public Participation Strategy will have no direct impact on "A Globally responsible Denbighshire"

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

N/A

Human rights

N/A

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

N/A

Reducing climate change

N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

N/A

Human rights

N/A

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

N/A

Reducing climate change

N/A