



Levelling Up Funding - Round 3 - Vale of Clwyd Constituency: 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: 1363

Brief description: Levelling Up Funding award for Vale of Clwyd constituency under Round 3 of the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund

Date Completed: [TEXT HERE] Version: 0

Completed by: [TEXT HERE]

Responsible Service: Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital and Assets

Localities affected by the proposal: Denbigh, Prestatyn, Rhyl,

Who will be affected by the proposal? Denbighshire County Council; Community and Town Councils; Residents; Businesses; Visitors; Third Sector

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? No

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

Further work and separate WIAs will be completed for each of the projects within the funding application. As the projects are further developed further consideration will be given to the detail and sustainability of each.

Prevention

At this stage in the proposal's development, there has been some consideration but there will be an ongoing dialogue with project leads regarding sustainable development.

Integration

Denbighshire County Council as the lead or joint lead body on developing, submitting and delivering this bid, is obligated to integrate relevant policies and the LDP in its thinking. Some consideration has been given at this early stage, with a view to maximising this in working with the various project leads.

Collaboration

Denbighshire County Council has worked with a number of different teams and partners in developing projects within the funding bids - however, was constrained by a tight timescale to submit. Individual project leads will identify and engage with stakeholders appropriate to their projects as

they are moved forward to delivery.

Involvement

The various proposed projects will need to have the involvement of a number of stakeholders, including affected residents. With many of the proposed projects, public consultation and engagement will be crucial in their design and in attaining statutory consents.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
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	Positive

Main conclusions

There are many positive impacts expected as a result of the projects within this application but given the early stages of development there is an opportunity for these to be extended and for some of the negative impacts to be reduced via rigorous planning and proposed resolutions by the various project leads. Further work will be carried out on individualised Well-being Impact Assessments to ensure that all considerations are considered carefully as the projects are developed. It will also be

important to ensure that where several projects will be delivered in close proximity that there is communication and coordination between projects - this will help to minimise negative impacts and potentially bring additional positive impacts to the work. It is important to note that community engagement and consultation will continue and be further developed as the projects evolve.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The proposals are expected to have a positive impact through helping to create a low carbon society; enhancing quality infrastructure and transport provision; increasing economic development; enhancing skills for the long-term and providing quality jobs for the long-term.

Further actions required

Some of the short-term disruptions during the construction phase of the project will be lessened through our planning and clear communication. There will also be the opportunity to work with relevant agencies and teams in relation to making sure that there is a sufficiently skilled workforce.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

Town Centre greening projects have been proposed.

Active Travel projects have been proposed

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Proposed activities relate to capital infrastructure and include improvements to highways and links to transport

Economic development

Projects proposed contribute to the regeneration theme of the Levelling Up fund and are expected to contribute to local economic development in the following ways:

- enhancing viability of town centres
- enhance supply chains and growth of businesses

- enhance greenspaces for residents and visitors alike

Quality skills for the long term

Potential opportunities for upskilling during the construction phase of the projects.

Quality jobs for the long term

Opportunities for job creation during the construction phase and with businesses growing as an indirect benefit of delivered projects e.g. via increased tourism

Childcare

Yet to be understood for the individual proposals

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

- supply chain and new materials relating to construction of capital schemes
- some proposed highways improvements, which could encourage vehicular activity

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Some short-term disruption to highways and transport may occur during the development phase of some of the schemes.

Economic development

Short-term disruption during construction phase of some projects.

Quality skills for the long term

No negative impacts are foreseen.

Quality jobs for the long term

Understanding whether the current labour force has the correct skills to help with the development phase.

Childcare

Potential impact on childcare provision due to provision of jobs.

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The projects within the bid are expected to have a positive impact overall through improved biodiversity particularly in built environments.

Much of the work will take place within the built environment where there is little/no greening. The addition of new greening elements is expected to enhance the biodiversity of those areas.

Contractors will be expected to identify opportunities to reduce waste, energy and fuel consumption and recycle materials where possible. Opportunity to increase awareness via public engagement/consultation exercises.

Further actions required

Project leads will seek to minimise negatives through strong planning including mapping out negatives and proposing solutions during the procurement phase. Coordination of some projects may provide further opportunities to reduce fuel/energy consumption and recycling.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

- Greening to be included within projects
- Encouraging biodiversity within the town centre public realms

Biodiversity in the built environment

Encouraging biodiversity within the town centre public realms through provision of new/additional greening elements

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Efforts will be made to reduce waste, reuse and recycle where possible during the construction phase.

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

- Inclusion of active travel routes will reduce future fuel consumption through encouraging cycling over vehicular use.
- Improved public realm spaces may encourage walking over vehicular use in built up areas

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

During the design phase, public consultation and engagement will take place.

Flood risk management

- All statutory consents and TAN 15 will be adhered to.

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

Noise and activity during construction could have an impact.

Biodiversity in the built environment

Noise and activity during construction could have an impact.

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Likely to be some waste during the construction phase.

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

Fuel and energy will be consumed during the construction phase.

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

No issues are foreseen

Flood risk management

No issues are foreseen.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

This bid is expected to have a positive impact because many of the proposed projects are centred on socio-disadvantaged areas, with the intention of improving access for all community members; encouraging economic development and increase of jobs and socio-economic means.

Further actions required

Potential negative impacts can be minimised by strong planning by the project leads and mapping out potential resolutions. Where necessary coordination between projects being delivered in close proximity should be undertaken and combined impacts assessed/planned for.. Good communication around expected disruption, alternative routes, timescales etc will be important.

Positive impacts identified:

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

- Active Travel schemes have been proposed
- Green spaces and improved countryside assets
- Public realm improvements to encourage flow/accessibility within town centres

Access to good quality, healthy food

Not relevant to this bid /proposed projects

People's emotional and mental well-being

- Greener environments can increase sense of well-being
- Better access to the natural environment including the nature walk and beach likely to increase usage/time spent in the natural environment

Access to healthcare

Proposed highways improvements could improve access to healthcare.

Participation in leisure opportunities

Proposed improvements to leisure opportunities, including public realm spaces; cycle routes and nature walks

Negative impacts identified:

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

Construction may make access / movement in an area more difficult.

Access to good quality, healthy food

No relevant to this bid/proposed projects

People's emotional and mental well-being

Some negative impact could occur during the construction phase and associated disruption.

Access to healthcare

Access to health care could be impacted during the construction phase e.g. road closure

Participation in leisure opportunities

Could be short-term disruption during the construction phase.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The bid is likely to have a positive impact because many of the proposed projects are centred on socio-economically disadvantaged areas, with the intention of :

- improving access to all community members;
- encouraging economic development and increasing jobs and socio-economic opportunities

Further actions required

Potential negative impacts can be minimised through string planning by the project leads and mapping of resolutions. Where several projects are intended to be delivered in close proximity there will be close communication / coordination to consider any additional negatives created through collective impact. Communication, good and accessible signage and consideration of phasing if practical is important.

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 projects within the bid are designed to enhance the well-being of all residents and visitors, regardless of characteristics. There will be strong engagement and consultation exercises during the design phase of projects.

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

The proposed projects are wider remitting, with many relating to public spaces and facilities which will be open to all members of the community and will include improved accessibility. Design out crime options will be considered as projects are developed.

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

- Creation of jobs during the construction phase and growth of businesses.
- Improvement of public spaces and community facilities which will either be freely accessible or will give support to disadvantaged people.
- Active travel improvements are intended to make it easier for people to move around the area without the need for a car.

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Many of the proposed projects relate to some of the County's most socio-economically disadvantaged areas with the intention of increasing cohesiveness, opportunity and economic vitality.

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

Accessibility around the town centre may be more difficult for people with disabilities during the construction period.

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

Poor designs could create unsafe spaces within the towns.

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

It may be more difficult to physically access locations in the town during the construction period.

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Some short-term disruption during the construction phase could inhibit accessibility to certain services. Any negative impact on local businesses may impact on local job opportunities.

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The bid is expected to improve community safety; increase community participation and resilience; improve the attractiveness of the built environment; improve highways and connectivity and improve rural resilience through enabling works to bring a derelict building back into use.

Further actions required

The bid can minimise potential negative impacts through strong planning by the project leads and mapping out potential resolutions. Consideration will be given to designing out crime within the design phase and effective contract management to ensure site safety and management of disruption during construction phase. Communication and coordination between projects will be important.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

- Improved public realm environments leading to increased footfall are both expected to increase safety/decrease opportunity for crime
- Delivering active travel improvements will improve the safety of routes for pedestrians and cyclists
- addressing eye sore buildings

Community participation and resilience

There will be engagement and consultation during the design phases

The attractiveness of the area

- Improved attractiveness to town centres through greening, improved public realm and properties
- Improved access to countryside assets

Connected communities

Improved connected highways and active travel

Rural resilience

Enabling works to bring derelict Listed building back into use in rural area

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

Could be some safety issues during construction phase

Community participation and resilience

No negative issues are foreseen

The attractiveness of the area

Potential short-term impact during the construction phase and long-term sustainability.

Connected communities

Short-term impact during the construction phase e.g. closed off routes etc

Rural resilience

No negative impacts identified.

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The bid is likely to have a neutral impact. These are capital projects with the majority of improvements centred around the public realm therefore opportunity to create a positive impact

directly through the projects is limited. however, the projects will promote the Welsh language through encouraging the Welsh language, particularly via bilingual signage and all written materials relating to the proposed projects. Culture and heritage projects will be protected through the protection of building and public realm characteristics. Where appropriate bi-lingual interpretation boards may be used to provide information about the cultural and heritage aspects of the projects. On this basis the impact is considered neutral.

Further actions required

The bid can minimise negative impacts through strong planning by the project leads and mapping out potential resolutions. In relation to the proposed demolition of the buildings in the Conservation Area of Rhyl - they are beyond economic repair and will be replaced sympathetically with engagement to also take place with CADW.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

Communication about the bid and projects will be available in welsh and people will be invited to discuss the projects through the medium of welsh.

Promoting the Welsh language

Consultation and engagement will be available bi-lingually.
Signage will be bi-lingual.

Culture and heritage

Opportunity to include elements within designs and choice of materials which reflect the local culture and heritage.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

No negative impacts foreseen

Promoting the Welsh language

No negative impacts foreseen

Culture and heritage

One project in Rhyl includes the demolition of buildings within a conservation area.

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The proposed projects are likely to have a positive impact through improving local supply chains; protecting human rights locally; improved local provision and accessibility and reducing climate change in the long-term via proposed greening and active travel projects.

Further actions required

The projects within the bid will consider these elements individually to identify and plan mitigation. Aspects such as the protection of human rights and climate will be considerations within the procurement process.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

The proposed projects will likely create a positive impact on local supply chains during the delivery phase i.e. work conferred to local businesses, sub-contractors and job creation

Human rights

The proposed projects will support human rights through creating opportunities for local people within the confines of national laws and policies.

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

The projects will be seeking to improve accessibility /better flow of movement for pedestrians and cyclists; lead to improved economic opportunities and increase housing opportunities

Reducing climate change

Strong elements of greening and active travel will contribute to reducing climate change in the long-term

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

Likely to have some products sourced from international supply chains which will have some negative carbon impact

Human rights

In relation to international supply chains, can be difficult to ascertain principles and practices relating to industry and commerce.

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

No negative impacts are foreseen.

Reducing climate change

Short-term negative impacts are likely to occur during the construction phase.