



Clwyd West LUF - St. Peter's Square, Ruthin: 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: 1383

Brief description: This project, St Peter's Square (Project Ref: CW LUF 1a), has been approved within Denbighshire County Council's application for funding under round 2 of the UK Government Levelling Up Fund (LUF) within the following application: LUF20687 Protecting Ruthin's Unique Heritage, Wellbeing & Rural Communities The Application is a package bid with 2 projects, this project activity is part of Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing: To improve connectivity for walking and cycling in and around Ruthin and complement investment in activities to boost its heritage and cultural value. This project proposes to enable year-round events to occur within the Square, which would also be made safer for all pedestrians and cyclists without compromising on vehicular access and parking. The expected deliverables are wide ranging improvements to enhance the public realm: • An attractive pedestrian gathering space in Ruthin town centre through enhanced pavement widths and more paved spaces for outdoor events • Plantings • Active travel: a pedestrian and cycle-friendly shared route approaching the Square

Date Completed: 24/06/2024 12:38:21 Version: 1

Completed by: Kimberley Mason

Responsible Service: Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Ruthin,

Who will be affected by the proposal? The local residents and business owners of the Square will

be positively impacted as will visitors to the Town Centre

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 : 31 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

There has been and will be ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, including land owners, business owners and operators, as well as Members.

Prevention

As part of the Clwyd West Levelling Up Fund, Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing this scheme proposes to improve connectivity for walking and cycling in and around Ruthin and complement investment in activities to boost its heritage and cultural value.

Integration

The project aims to help strengthen the economy within the business in the Town Centre. The provision of an enhanced events space will help to promote social well-being and interaction within the community and with visitors, and reduce isolation. The shared cycle and pedestrian space will encourage walking or cycling. There could possibly be some dis-benefits to local business but these will be managed and considered with the project delivery and agreements.

Collaboration

This is part of the wider Clwyd West proposal, the CW LUF proposal is split into two projects. St Peter's Square is within Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing. There are regular

updates to key stakeholders (i.e. Town Council, Local Members, etc).

Involvement

We will be consulting stakeholders as necessary and value their input and contribution. Key stakeholders will include business owners and operators, as well as Members.

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	Positive
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

The scheme has been designed to improve access for cyclist and pedestrians to the town centre and to diminish the through traffic within the square, hence creating a more usable, safe space for shopping and tourism. This should in turn help to support local businesses and create greater economic benefits within the town centre.

Carbon impacted associated with the scheme will be managed as much as possible through the

design of the scheme.

The scheme may be perceived to be negative by some until they are familiar with the new layout.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The project will have a positive impact as the design is encouraging more people to visit Ruthin which will in turn help with local businesses and visitor attractions.

Further actions required

During constructions there will be slight disruption to businesses and visitor attractions which will be mitigated through regular communication within the town. It is possible that until people familiarise themselves with the new layout there may be a reluctance from residents in the short term.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

Low carbon options (walking/cycling) are being considered

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Active Travel and wider pavements to encourage pedestrians and to facilitate ease of safety around the town centre

Economic development

The proposal for an events area in the square will enhance the vitality and viability of the town centre, and encourage longer dwell time and expenditure, which will benefit businesses. Opportunity to explore introducing coach parking and be more accessible to visitors.

Quality skills for the long term

Community benefits during the construction phase will be considered e.g. training and work

experience

Quality jobs for the long term

Increased tourism has potential to impact on the creation of quality jobs

Childcare

None

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

Carbon impact related to construction phase

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

One way system could impact on the way in which people use the town and access businesses

Economic development

Disruption whilst on going works with possible hindrance to business deliveries and potential loss of on street parking adjacent to individual businesses, with minimal impact to business deliveries in the future

Quality skills for the long term

None

Quality jobs for the long term

None

Childcare

None

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Highways scheme to encourage improved access and circulation of town centre for economic gain

Further actions required

Loss of some green infrastructure - but replacements elsewhere and introduction of some greening on site

Possible increased waste - increased bin provision

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

None

Biodiversity in the built environment

Consideration will be given to biodiversity and environmentally enhanced options. The proposal will include planting / greening within the town - introduce soft landscaping

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Construction contract would aim to recycle and reuse where possible

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

Will try to utilise locally resourced materials where possible and also utilise local contractors.

Consider where possible a waste management plan.

Also, use of active travel will reduce energy/fuel consumption

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

None

Flood risk management

We do not anticipate any flood risk issues within the area

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

None

Biodiversity in the built environment

Loss of one tree to scheme - but replacements elsewhere

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

There could be more waste to collect within the Town Centre if there are additional visitors

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

None

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

None

Flood risk management

None

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The project will promote health and well-being through active travel, access to arts and heritage and a new events space within the town centre.

Further actions required

None

Positive impacts identified:

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

The potential pedestrian and cycle-friendly shared route approaching the Square may encourage more people to use the cycle or walk

Access to good quality, healthy food

Whilst the project can't influence the produce available, it is possible that visitor demand and local businesses will promote good quality, local produce

People's emotional and mental well-being

Increased social events will benefit people's emotional and mental well being, through access to cultural heritage

Access to healthcare

None

Participation in leisure opportunities

Through the proposed output of the project it will encourage people to walk/cycle in stead of using cars.

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

None

Participation in leisure opportunities

None

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Improved access making it easier for disabled people to participate in town centre life

Further actions required

None

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

Improving access for disabled people

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

Neutral

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

We will be looking, through community benefits, for the contractors to offer opportunities such as training, work experience or apprenticeships, which could benefit people who may be affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Neutral

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

None

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

None

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The design promotes opportunities for people to come together within the town e.g. events, markets, arts

Further actions required

Signage and traffic calming measures to ensure slow speeds in the town centre

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

The new layout proposed will reduce the risk of pedestrians crossing dangerously close to a roundabout

Community participation and resilience

The works to the Square enabling events will bring extra footfall which in turn will build on resilience within the local businesses.

The attractiveness of the area

Inclusion of events space within the square will be more in keeping with the cultural heritage setting of the town

Connected communities

People will still continue to use the town centre and others may visit when they learn access has improved

Rural resilience

This project will include improved pedestrian and cycle routes which will enable better access to the town centre and have a positive impact on small independent businesses, relative to residents and

services within the tourism industry

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

If the solution is to have a shared space for pedestrians and cars, there may be risks associated with this, although evidence cites that drivers slow down in shared spaces

Community participation and resilience

None

The attractiveness of the area

None

Connected communities

None

Rural resilience

None

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The scheme facilitates access to culture and ensures information is available in a bilingual format.

Further actions required

None

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

There is a likelihood, that indirectly, this will be encouraged. Improvements to accessibility will encourage people who may be suffering social isolation to venture into town and therefore have conversations. The Welsh language is used frequently by many of the community within the local area

Promoting the Welsh language

All communication will be bilingual

Signage will also be bilingual during the construction phase, aswell as any interpretation boards. The information will also be available bilingually on our website

Culture and heritage

The events space may be opened up for cultural and heritage events.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

None

Promoting the Welsh language

None

Culture and heritage

None

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The design of the scheme promotes lower carbon access and activities within the town centre

Further actions required

Consideration of carbon impact of materials and reducing, reusing and/or recycling waste where possible

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

Local supply chains will be considered

Human rights

None

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

A dedicated events space may encourage broader local service provision

Reducing climate change

Active travel route provision to encourage cyclists and improved access within the town for pedestrians

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

None

Human rights

None

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

None

Reducing climate change

Impact associated with construction



Clwyd West LUF - Cae Ddol Park: 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: 1384

Brief description: This project, CW LUF 1f Cae Ddol Park, has been approved within Denbighshire County Council's application for funding under round 2 of the UK Government Levelling Up Fund (LUF) within the following application: LUF20687 Protecting Ruthin's Unique Heritage, Wellbeing & Rural Communities The Application is a package bid with 2 projects, this project activity is part of Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing: To improve connectivity for walking and cycling in and around Ruthin and complement investment in activities to boost its heritage and cultural value. The project is currently defining the concept design to include small improvements to the car park, minor improvements to the toilet block, creation of an active travel route through the park, a pump track and other play facilities.

Date Completed: 24/06/2024 15:09:47 Version: 1

Completed by: Kimberley Mason

Responsible Service: Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Ruthin,

Who will be affected by the proposal? Residents and visitors to the park

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 : 32 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

There has been and will be ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, including land owners, business owners and operators, as well as Members.

Prevention

As part of the Clwyd West Levelling Up Fund, Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing this scheme proposes to improve connectivity for walking and cycling in and around Ruthin and complement investment in activities to boost its heritage and cultural value.

Integration

The project aims to promote health and well-being within the community with an active travel route, play area and pump track within the park.

Collaboration

This is part of the wider Clwyd West proposal, the CW LUF proposal is split into two projects. Cae Ddol Park is within Project 1: Ruthin's Unique Heritage and Wellbeing. There are regular updates to key stakeholders (i.e. Town Council, Local Members, etc).

Involvement

We will be consulting stakeholders as necessary and value their input and contribution. Key stakeholders will include business owners and operators, as well as Members.

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

Overall a positive impact across the well-being goals; all work will be progressed in a sympathetic manner to improve and maintain the site.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The use of local contractors and materials will be locally sourced where-ever possible and may provide work experience and training which we will be liaising with Community Benefits to maximise procurement benefits.

Further actions required

We will be liaising with Community Benefits to maximise procurement benefits.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

The project is reviewing whether to utilise a water borehole to tap into an artesian lake under Ruthin which would help to keep the water levels in the lake up to suitable levels

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Active Travel Route may encourage more cycling and walking

Economic development

The use of local contractors and materials will be locally sourced where-ever possible

Quality skills for the long term

Construction contract may provide an opportunity through community benefits of work place training and experience

Quality jobs for the long term

None

Childcare

None

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

None

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Active Travel Route will take up some of the currently existing greenspace in the park

Economic development

None

Quality skills for the long term

None

Quality jobs for the long term

None

Childcare

None

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

All opportunities to increase beneficial biodiversity impacts, and reduce negative impacts will be taken; overall a positive impact is anticipated.

Further actions required

We will be applying for Flood Risk Activity Permits (FRAPs) prior to any works, and we are actively liaising with NRW. We will look to mitigate any negative impacts on biodiversity and the environment where possible.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

Using a borehole to maintain water levels in lake is being discussed as there is an ongoing issue with low water levels in warmer weather. This is being discussed with NRW. An opportunity to enhance habitats through planting a wildflower area and using plants of local provenance

Biodiversity in the built environment

None

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

We will aim to utilise locally sourced materials, and where possible recycled materials.

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

Through use of locally source materials, products will not need to be transported as far

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

There is an opportunity to increase awareness via use of signage. This is being considered and would be funded by Ruthin Town Council. Volunteer opportunities for wildflower planting will be considered.

Flood risk management

Whilst no specific works to reduce flood-risk are taking place, we will be applying for Flood Risk Activity Permits (FRAPs) prior to any works, and we are actively liaising with NRW.

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

Through construction and inclusion/creation of additional pathways, and play opportunities, some current areas of green space may be impacted, however we will look to mitigate this where possible

Biodiversity in the built environment

None

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

None

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

None

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

None

Flood risk management

This area is already prone to flooding. Flood Risk Activity Permits(FRAPs) will be applied for prior to any works, and we are actively liaising with NRW.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The project will present opportunities to further encourage enjoyment of the facility, especially through the provision of improved pathways through the park

Further actions required

Opportunities will be sought and maximised by liaising with the relevant teams

Positive impacts identified:

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

As this project is in Cae Ddol Park this area already provides opportunities for residents and visitors to maximise health and well-being. Through the creation of additional pathways there is an opportunity for more accessibility, and this will be considered when deciding on materials to be utilised

Access to good quality, healthy food

None

People's emotional and mental well-being

Through this project opportunities will be considered, to enhance accessibility and enable visitors and residents in the area to visit and experience the natural environment, thus having a positive impact on people's emotional and mental wellbeing

Access to healthcare

None

Participation in leisure opportunities

There is an opportunity to mirror what Countryside Services has done in other areas

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

None

Participation in leisure opportunities

None

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

There are positive impacts through the delivery of this project as identified above, and no negative impacts

Further actions required

We are seeking to improve pathways through the park

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

Improved pathways will offer better accessibility for people with mobility issues such as wheelchair users. Also people using prams or pushchairs.

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

None

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

We are providing opportunities for people in the local area regardless of socio-economic background

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

None

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

None

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

None

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

There are a number of positive opportunities for residents, visitors, businesses and group which will be delivered through the delivery of this project.

Further actions required

Through liaising with internal colleagues and external organisations with expertise in the relevant areas, we will mitigate where possible any negative impacts

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

We are providing a safe area, free from traffic for people including families

Community participation and resilience

We will be consulting with members of the public

The attractiveness of the area

We will seek to maximise attractiveness

Connected communities

An active travel route will provide a safer route connecting the Llanfwrog end of town with the main town (currently a busy A-road). Possibility that people will walk or cycle into town rather than use the car.

Rural resilience

This project enhances opportunities for visiting the park, including on foot or by cycle

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

None

Community participation and resilience

None

The attractiveness of the area

The pump track and active travel route installations, some people may perceive these as less attractive; however some families may see this as an opportunity to visit the park which would then potentially have a positive impact on local businesses

Connected communities

None

Rural resilience

None

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

This project does not directly impact or influence any of these areas

Further actions required

Ruthin Town Council will be procuring signage, and all signage will be bilingual and in keeping with the local environment

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

None

Promoting the Welsh language

All communications and signage will be bilingual and information on our website will be bilingual regarding the scheme

Culture and heritage

None

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

None

Promoting the Welsh language

None

Culture and heritage

None

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

This project will source local materials and will use local contractors to deliver the project where

possible

Further actions required

We will produce some additional information for the community benefits section of the procurement pack to maximise benefits from the project

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

Where possible we will utilise local businesses, and local materials. Local contractors will be utilised to deliver the work.

Human rights

This will be managed through the council's procurement process.

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

None

Reducing climate change

None

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

Through the utilisation of local businesses there is a possibility that they may not be as competitive on pricing as a larger national/international company which therefore would reduce the scale of the project

Human rights

None

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

None

Reducing climate change

None