

Cyngor Sir Powys County Council

Impact Assessment (IA)

The integrated approach to support effective decision making



This **Impact Assessment (IA)** toolkit, incorporating Welsh Language, Equalities, Well-being of Future Generations Act, Sustainable Development Principles, Communication and Engagement, Safeguarding, Corporate Parenting, Community Cohesion and Risk Management, supporting effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation.

Please read the accompanying guidance before completing the form.

Draft versions of the assessment should be watermarked as "Draft" and retained for completeness. However, only the final version will be made publicly available. Draft versions may be provided to regulators if appropriate. In line with Council policy IAs should be retained for 7 years.

Service Area	Outdoor Recreation	Head of Service	Stuart Mackintosh	Strategic Director	Ian Budd	Portfolio Holder	Cllr Rachel Powell
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Proposal

Outline Summary / Description of Proposal

Outdoor Recreation have to make efficiency savings of £97,125 for the 2019/20 financial year. The options outlined for meeting those savings include:-

- 37 Playgrounds on Housing land would be handed back to Housing Services on 1st April 2019, or sooner.
- Grass Cutting Review. Unlikely that the number of cuts could be significantly reduced further, therefore some areas will cease to be cut.
- Income Target of £21,280. Potential for income from an SLA with the Housing Service to maintain and inspect their playgrounds. Town and Community Councils and other internal departments will be contacted to see if officers can sell services such as playground or tree inspections and drone surveys, but validity unknown.
- Reduction in Third Party Spend of £75,845. This will mean significant reductions in budgets for maintaining any remaining playgrounds, and significant reductions on budgets to undertake tree inspections and any required tree works.

1. Profile of savings delivery (if applicable)

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	TOTAL
£	£97,125	£	£	£	£

2. Consultation requirements

Consultation Requirement	Consultation deadline	Feedback considered
Staff consultation required	Discussions with Housing Service and other internal departments will be required. To be completed in the autumn of 2018.	No

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3. Version Control (services should consider the impact assessment early in the development process and continually evaluate)

Version	Author	Job Title	Date
v.1	Nina Davies	Professional Lead Countryside Access and Recreation	17 th July 2018

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4. Impact on Other Service Areas

Does the proposal have potential to impact on another service area? (Including implication for Health & Safety and Corporate Parenting)
PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM / ENGAGE ANY AFFECTED SERVICE AREAS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY

Housing Service – in order to meet the efficiency savings, 37 playgrounds on HRA land will be handed back to the Service for management. Currently Outdoor Recreation oversee, inspect and maintain these playgrounds. From April 2019 the Housing Service would be required to take on the maintenance and liability for the playgrounds on their land. An initial meeting between the Professional Lead for Countryside Access & Recreation and an officer from the Housing Service has indicated that there could be the potential for income from an SLA with the Housing Service to maintain and inspect their playgrounds.

Health & Safety – in order to meet the efficiency savings there will be a significant reduction in third party spend on maintenance and inspections of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands. This will mean that there may be a higher rate of incidents, accidents and insurance claims. With reduced capacity for inspections, monitoring and undertaking works, the council will have a weakened position in terms of defending claims.

Insurance – in order to meet the efficiency savings there will be a significant reduction in third party spend on maintenance and inspections of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands. This will mean that there may be a higher rate of incidents, accidents and insurance claims. With reduced capacity for inspections, monitoring and undertaking works, the council will have a weakened position in terms of defending claims.

Children’s Services – there will be a reduction in the number and quality of playgrounds in Powys which will negatively impact on the objectives of the Vision 2025. They are places where children can play, explore and learn. They positively contribute to the health and well-being of young Powys residents and are focal points for local communities.

Regeneration – Playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands directly contribute to the local economy as they are tourist attractions.

HTR - Reduction or cessation of grass cutting may have an impact on HTR as they deliver the work on behalf of the service.

Service Area informed:	Housing Services	Contact Officer liaised with:	Andy Thompson
Mitigation			

Discussions are ongoing with regards to the possibility of Outdoor Recreation continuing to oversee the 37 playgrounds on HRA land through an SLA.

5. How does your proposal impact on the council’s strategic vision?

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Council Priority	How does the proposal impact on this priority?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
The Economy We will develop a vibrant economy	<p>Reduction in the number and quality of playgrounds would have a negative impact on the economy as they are tourist attractions and help attract families to visit Powys.</p> <p>The reduction in third party spend would negatively impact on Powys based suppliers and contractors.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>
Health and Care We will lead the way in effective, integrated rural health and care	<p>Playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands provide opportunities for play, recreation and exercise. A reduction in their number or quality may therefore have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the residents of Powys.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>
Learning and skills We will strengthen learning and skills		<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
Residents and Communities We will support our residents and communities	<p>Playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands provide opportunities for play, recreation and exercise to local residents and communities. A reduction in their number or quality may therefore have a negative impact. Parks and playgrounds can be important community focal points.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>

Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements

Due to the timescales given to put efficiency savings information together, there has not been the time to undertake community engagement or consultation over these proposals. Officer knowledge has been used for answers provided.

6. How does your proposal impact on the Welsh Government's well-being goals?

Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
<p>A prosperous Wales: An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>	<p>The reduction in third party spend will negatively impact on Powys based contractors and suppliers.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p>A resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p>A healthier Wales: A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>	<p>Reducing the number and quality of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands will negatively impact on the ability for people to maximise benefits to their physical and mental well-being.</p>	<p>Very Poor</p>		<p>Very Poor</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities.</p>	<p>Reducing the number and quality of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands will make communities less attractive and less connected.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>

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<p>A globally responsible Wales: A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>	<p>The proposals do not contribute positively to global well-being.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language: A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>				
<p><i>Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language</i></p>	<p>At this stage, it is not anticipated that the Welsh language will be any more negatively impacted upon than the English language. This may change if decisions are made to close more playgrounds in Welsh-speaking areas as opposed to English-speaking communities. However, no decisions have been made in this regard.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>If there are decisions made to close facilities in the future, the impact on Welsh speaking communities to be considered.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p><i>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language</i></p>	<p>There are no known impacts at this stage.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p><i>Welsh Language impact on staff</i></p>	<p>There are no known impacts at this stage.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p><i>People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.</i></p>	<p>Reducing the number or quality of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands does not encourage people to take part in sport or recreation.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>
<p>A more equal Wales: A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</p>				
<p><i>Age</i></p>	<p>Reducing the number or quality of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands disproportionately negatively effects young children</p>	<p>Very Poor</p>		<p>Very Poor</p>
<p><i>Disability</i></p>	<p>The reduction in third party spend means that existing facilities cannot be maintained and may be removed. Items of fixed play, such as those that are 'accessible for all' could not be purchased or maintained. There would not be available funds to maintain or install paths to allow access for all to sites.</p>	<p>Poor</p>		<p>Poor</p>
<p><i>Gender reassignment</i></p>	<p>There are no known impacts at this stage.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p><i>Marriage or civil partnership</i></p>	<p>There are no known impacts at this stage.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>
<p><i>Race</i></p>	<p>There are no known impacts at this stage.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>		<p>Unknown</p>

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<i>Religion or belief</i>	There are no known impacts at this stage.	Unknown		Unknown
<i>Sex</i>	There are no known impacts at this stage.	Unknown		Unknown
<i>Sexual Orientation</i>	There are no known impacts at this stage.	Unknown		Unknown
<i>Pregnancy and Maternity</i>	Reducing the number or quality of playgrounds, parks, open spaces and woodlands may impact on those who are pregnant as they are often easily accessible and safe places to take young children and families when accessing the general outdoors becomes more difficult during pregnancy.	Unknown		Unknown

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Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements

Due to the timescales given to put efficiency savings information together, there has not been the time to undertake community engagement or consultation over these proposals. Officer knowledge has been used for answers provided.

7. How does your proposal impact on the council's other key guiding principles?

Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Sustainable Development Principle (5 ways of working)				
Long Term: Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.	The long term implications of these proposals are unknown.	Unknown		Unknown
Collaboration: Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.	The Service has been working with Town and Community Councils over a number of years in order to seek opportunities to CAT or lease facilities. These conversations has mostly now been exhausted. If other collaborative solutions present themselves they will be fully explored.	Unknown		Unknown
Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them.	Due to the timescales given for putting forward proposals to meet the efficiency savings, there has not been the time to communicate and engage with the residents and communities who would be affected.	Very Poor		Very Poor
Prevention: Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.	Unknown.	Unknown		Unknown
Integration: Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.	Unknown.	Unknown		Unknown

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Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Preventing Poverty: Prevention, including helping people into work and mitigating the impact of poverty.	Unknown.	Unknown		Unknown
Unpaid Carers: Ensuring that unpaid carers views are sought and taken into account	It is anticipated that these proposals 'may' have a disproportionately negative impact on unpaid carers as parks, playgrounds, woodlands and open spaces provide free opportunities for access and recreation.	Unknown		Unknown
Safeguarding: Preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with health and social care needs who can't protect themselves.	Unknown.	Unknown		Unknown
Impact on Powys County Council Workforce	<p>These proposals will impact on the workload of a small number of PCC staff.</p> <p>Any reduction in the number or quality of parks, playgrounds, open spaces and woodlands may negatively impact the ability of PCC to attract employees to the county and the council. Powys would become a considerably less attractive place to live, work and visit.</p>	Poor		Poor
Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements				
<p>Due to the timescales given to put efficiency savings information together, there has not been the time to undertake community engagement or consultation over these proposals. Officer knowledge has been used for answers provided.</p>				

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8. Achievability of proposal?

Impact on Service / Council	Risk to delivery of the proposal	Inherent Risk
Medium	Low	Medium
Mitigation		

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9. What are the risks to service delivery or the council following implementation of this proposal?

Risk Identified	Inherent Risk Rating	Mitigation	Residual Risk Rating
Health & Safety – reduction in inspections and monitoring for playgrounds and trees may lead to increased risk in terms of health & safety.	High	None identified	High
Impact on the Housing Service who would be required to take on the maintenance and liability for the playgrounds on their land.	Medium	None identified	Medium
Insurance – reduction in inspections and monitoring for playgrounds and trees may lead to a reduced ability for PCC to defend claims in case of any accidents/incidents	Medium	None identified	Medium
Reduction or cessation of grass cutting would have an impact on HTR as they deliver the work on behalf of the service.	Medium	None identified	Medium
Cessation of grass cutting in some areas may lead to increased fire risk (in extended hot weather) & increased incidents of dog fouling	Medium	None identified	Medium
Well managed and maintained public open spaces are important tourism assets. Powys would become a considerably less attractive place to live, work and visit.	Medium	None identified	Medium
Powys County Council would have reduced capacity to deliver its Vision 2025, as Outdoor Recreation delivers direct benefits in terms of the Economy, Health & Well-being, Learning & Skills and supporting Residents & Communities.	Medium	None identified	Medium
Loss of/reduction in income for local contractors who would normally be employed to undertake maintenance works. Leading to a negative impact on local businesses and the local economy. If local contractors cease trading, the Service would have difficulty delivering work with the remaining budget.	Medium	None identified	Medium
Overall judgement (to be included in project risk register)			
Very High Risk	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
		Medium risk overall	

10. Indicative timetable for actions to deliver change proposal, if approved

Action	Target Date	Outcome	Decisions made
Remove £97,125 from Outdoor Recreation Budget	1 st April 2019	Outdoor Recreation meet their efficiency savings targets	

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Portfolio Holder decision required	Choose an item.	Date required
Cabinet decision required	Choose an item.	Date required
Council decision required	Choose an item.	Date required

11. Indicative resource requirements (FTE) – link to Resource Delivery Plan

Support Requirements	2018-19				2019-20				2020-21			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Finance												
Housing Services												
HTR												
Health & Safety												
Insurance												
Other Services e.g. Schools, Property												

12. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)	Cabinet Report Reference:
In order for Outdoor Recreation to meet the £97,125 efficiency savings target there will be negative impacts on internal PCC services and et TO BE COMPLETED	

13. Is there additional evidence to support the Impact Assessment (IA)?

What additional evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?
N/A

14. On-going monitoring arrangements?

What arrangements will be put in place to monitor the impact over time?
No arrangements are proposed at this time.
Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.
N/A

15. Sign Off

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Impact Assessment Lead:	Nina Davies		17/7/18
Head of Service:	Stuart Mackintosh		
Strategic Director:	Ian Budd		
Portfolio Holder:	Clr Rachel Powell		

16. Governance

Decision to be made by	Choose an item.	Date required	
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FORM ENDS