

Cyngor Sir Powys County Council

Impact Assessment (IA)

The integrated approach to support effective decision making



Please read the accompanying guidance before completing the form.

This **Impact Assessment (IA)** toolkit, incorporates a range of legislative requirements that support effective decision making and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation. **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	Schools Service	Head of Service	Lynette Lovell / Emma Palmer / Georgie Bevan	Portfolio Holder	Clr Pete Roberts
Proposal	Irfon Valley C.P. School Proposal				
Outline Summary / Description of Proposal					
A review of Irfon Valley C.P. School has been carried out, and Cabinet approval is now requested to commence the statutory process on the following proposal in respect of the school:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To close Irfon Valley C.P. School from the 31st August 2024, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools. 					

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

Version	Author	Job Title	Date
1	Morgan Smith	Transforming Education Programme Officer	September 2023

2. Profile of savings delivery (if applicable)

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	TOTAL
£	£	£	£	£	£

3. Consultation requirements

Consultation Requirement	Consultation deadline/or justification for no consultation
Public consultation required	If approved by Cabinet, it is anticipated that consultation in accordance with the School Organisation Code will commence in October/November 2023.

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4. Impact on Other Service Areas

Does the proposal have potential to impact on another service area? (Have you considered the implications on Health & Safety and Corporate Parenting?) PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM / ENGAGE ANY AFFECTED SERVICE AREAS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY			
Adult Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Children's Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commissioning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Highways, Transportation and Recycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Digital Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing and Community Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Legal and Democratic Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Property, Planning and Public Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Transformation and Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Workforce and OD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Data Protection Impact Assessment			
Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Not currently, however should the Council proceed with statutory processes, this would involve processing the personal details of individuals			
Is Powys County Council the data controller? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A currently <input type="checkbox"/>			
If you have answered yes to either of the above you will be required to complete, as a minimum, the screening questions on the data protection impact assessment. For further advice please contact the Data Compliance Team.			

4a Geographical Locations

What geographical area(s) will be impacted by the proposal? (Chose all those applicable)			
Powys	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brecon	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Builth and Llanwrtyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crickhowell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hay and Talgarth	<input type="checkbox"/>
South	<input type="checkbox"/>	Knighton and Presteigne	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Llandrindod and Rhayader	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Llanfair Caereinion	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Llanfyllin	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Llanidloes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Machynlleth	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Newtown	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Welshpool and Montgomery	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Ystradgynlais	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> 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>As part of the Council’s Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, this proposal represents an effort to ‘reconfigure and rationalise primary provision.’ Implementation of this proposal would positively contribute to a Powys that uses resources efficiently, and which produces a skilled and well-educated population.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</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>Implementation of the proposal would require additional travel for pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School for whom this is their closest school. This would have a negative environmental impact as more home to school transport would need to be provided to transport pupils to their nearest alternative school.</p> <p>Implementation of the proposal would mean that the Council would no longer need to run the Irfon Valley school site. This would result in a reduction in the use of heating and electricity amongst other factors.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>

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<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>Public Health (Wales) Act, 2017: Part 6 of the Act requires for public bodies to undertake a health impact assessment to assess the likely effect of a proposed action or decision on the physical or mental health of the people of Wales.</p>	<p>Implementation of the proposal would result in closure of Irfon Valley C.P. School, with pupils transferring to their nearest alternative schools. It is acknowledged that this could have a negative impact on the mental well-being of pupils, staff, and other stakeholders associated with the school during the transition period, however the long-term aim is to provide improved learning opportunities for all learners.</p>	<p>Poor</p>	<p>Support would be provided to pupils during the transition period to enable them to transfer effectively to their new schools.</p> <p>The process is to be concluded as quickly as possible to minimise the period of uncertainty for pupils, staff and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities.</p>	<p>There would be a significant impact on the community of Garth, as there would no longer be provision in the village, and therefore there could be a potential loss of community facilities associated with the school.</p> <p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School. Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council’s Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p> <p>A separate draft community impact assessment will be carried out which includes input from the school. This will be updated as required throughout the process.</p>	<p>Very Poor</p>	<p>The Irfon Valley School building is owned by the Council. Therefore, there is the opportunity for the Council to realise a capital receipt from sale of the school site.</p>	<p>Very Poor</p>

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 a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
<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>Human Rights - is about being proactive (see guidance)</p> <p>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: The Convention gives rights to everyone under the age of 18, which include the right to be treated fairly and to be protected from discrimination; that organisations act for the best interest of the child; the right to life, survival and development; and the right to be heard.</p>	<p>The aim of implementing the proposal is to provide the best possible opportunities to learners, enabling them to reach their full potential.</p> <p>If approved by Cabinet, the Council will carry out consultation on the proposal, including consultation with all pupils affected by the proposal, ensuring that all those affected by the plans would have the opportunity to give their views.</p>	Neutral		Choose an item.
<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. <i>Incorporating requirements under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards</i></p>				
<p>Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language</p>	<p>Irfon Valley C.P. School is an English-medium school, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the proposal would impact on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, or on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, pupils could choose to transfer to Builth Wells C.P. School, which is a dual stream school. This would provide an opportunity for pupils to choose Welsh-medium education and become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.</p>	Neutral		Choose an item.

Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below
<p><i>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language</i></p>	<p>Irfon Valley C.P. School and is an English-medium school, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the proposal would impact on opportunities to promote the Welsh language.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, pupils could choose to transfer to Builth Wells C.P. School, which is a dual stream school. This would provide an opportunity for pupils to choose Welsh-medium education and become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>
<p><i>People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.</i></p>	<p>Implementation of the proposal would lead to the closure of Irfon Valley C.P. School, with pupils transferring to their nearest alternative schools. The alternative schools would be larger schools, which should be able to offer a greater range of sport, art and recreation activities for pupils.</p> <p>Implementation of the proposal would also result in increasing pupil numbers at neighbouring schools, which should enable them to provide additional opportunities for pupils to take part in sport, art, and other extra-curricular activities.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</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). Incorporating requirements under the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Social Economic duty (2020).</p>				

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<i>Age</i>	The proposal would impact on primary aged pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all affected pupils.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Disability</i>	The proposal would impact on any pupils with disabilities currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all affected pupils, including any pupils with disabilities.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Gender reassignment</i>	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Marriage or civil partnership</i>	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Race</i>	The proposal would impact on all primary aged pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School, including pupils belonging to protected characteristic groups. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for pupils, including those belonging to protected characteristic groups.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Religion or belief</i>	Irfon Valley is not a church school. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School, regardless of their religion or belief.	Neutral		Choose an item.

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<i>Sex</i>	The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Sexual Orientation</i>	The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School, regardless of their sexual orientation.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Pregnancy and Maternity</i>	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Socio-economic duty</i>	<p>The aim of the proposal is to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School, including those eligible for Free School Meals. PLASC 2023 data indicated that 17.6% of pupils at the school were eligible for Free School Meals.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, there would be no school in Garth. This would mean that pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School would need to travel to their nearest alternative schools. Whilst home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils, it is possible that this would impact on pupils' ability to access extra-curricular / after school activities, and that this impact would be greater in respect of pupils from lower income households. There would also be an impact on the parents of these pupils in terms of accessing school activities.</p>	Neutral		Choose an item.

Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements

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 a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
PLASC				

6. 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 a more positive impact or to 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.	Pupil numbers at Irfon Valley C.P. School are very low and are not expected to increase over the coming years. The aim of the proposal to close the school is to ensure the best possible opportunities for learners in the area now and in the future, and to ensure better strategic management of the Powys schools estate.	Good		Choose an item.
Collaboration: Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.	Should the Cabinet agree to proceed, full consultation would be carried out, which would enable all interested parties to give their views. This would include an opportunity to suggest any alternative options for the school.	Neutral		Choose an item.

Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below
<p>Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): <i>Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them including:</i> Unpaid Carers: <i>Ensuring that unpaid carers views are sought and taken into account</i></p>	<p>Should Cabinet decide to proceed, full consultation would be required in accordance with the School Organisation Code in order to achieve this. This would ensure that all interested parties would have an opportunity to give their views. The findings of this exercise would be reported to Cabinet and would be taken into consideration when determining how to proceed. This impact assessment will be updated throughout the process to reflect any feedback received.</p> <p>All stakeholders would have the opportunity to give their views as part of this process, this would include any unpaid carers in the area.</p>	Good		Choose an item.
<p>Prevention: <i>Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring including:</i> Safeguarding: <i>Preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with health and social care needs who can't protect themselves.</i></p>	<p>The aim of the proposal to close Irfon Valley C.P. School is to ensure the best possible opportunities for learners in the area now and in the future, and to ensure better strategic management of the Powys schools estate.</p> <p>Ensuring appropriate safeguarding arrangements is a key aspect of any school organisation proposal. The intention is that the proposal would maintain or improve the safeguarding arrangements for all pupils.</p>	Good		Choose an item.
<p>Integration: <i>Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.</i></p>	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.

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Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below
Powys County Council Workforce: What Impact will this change have on the Workforce?	Implementation of the proposal would impact on all current staff at Irfon Valley C.P. School as there would no longer be a school in Garth, therefore staff would be subject to a Management of Change process. Should Cabinet decide to proceed, full consultation would be carried out in accordance with the School Organisation Code. This process would be supported by relevant LA teams (e.g. HR). This would include consultation with staff, which would ensure that they had an opportunity to give their views.	Poor		Poor
Payroll: How will this impact salary, any overtime/enhanced payments etc? Does this affect any particular group of employees? E.g. Male/Female dominated workforce. Does this proposal comply with the Councils Single Status Terms and Conditions?	Implementation of the preferred way forward could impact on salary arrangements for current staff at Irfon Valley C.P. School.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Welsh Language impact on staff	Irfon Valley C.P. School is an English-medium school, therefore it is not anticipated that there would be a Welsh language impact on staff	Neutral		Choose an item.
Apprenticeships: Has consideration been given to whether this change impacts negatively, or positively on Apprenticeships within the service?	No impact	Neutral		Choose an item.

Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements

Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below

7. What is the impact of this proposal on our communities?

Communities	How does the proposal impact on residents and community?	<u>IMPACT</u> See impact definitions in guidance document	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> See impact definitions in guidance document	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement

Garth	<p>There would be a significant impact on the community of Garth, as there would no longer be provision in the village, and there could be a potential loss of community facilities associated with the school.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Irfon Valley C.P. School. Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p> <p>A separate draft community impact assessment has been carried out which includes input from the school. This will be updated as required throughout the process.</p>	Major		Major	
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9. What are the risks to service delivery or the council following implementation of this proposal?

Description of risks			
Risk Identified	Inherent Risk Rating Impact X Likelihood (See Risk Matrix in guidance document)	Mitigation	Residual Risk Rating Impact X Likelihood (See Risk Matrix in guidance document)
N/A			

10. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)	Cabinet Report Reference:
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The aim of the proposal is to improve the educational provision for learners, however the assessment has identified some negative aspects. These primarily relate to the impact on the local community due to loss of educational provision from the village, and the additional travel that would be required for pupils to attend alternative provision and their parents to access school activities.

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

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

Full consultation would be required to implement this proposal, and this would enable the impact assessment to be further developed.

12. On-going monitoring arrangements?

What arrangements will be put in place to monitor the impact over time?

The Transforming Education Programme Board will continue to monitor impact over time.

Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.

The impact assessment will be reviewed at all stages of the development.

13. Sign Off

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Impact Assessment Lead:	Sarah Astley	Sarah Astley	
Head of Service:	Lynette Lovell		
Portfolio Holder:	CLlr Pete Roberts		

14. Governance

Decision to be made by	Cabinet	Date required	24 th October 2023
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FORM ENDS

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