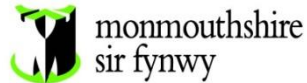


Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga

Dydd Mawrth, 7 Medi 2021

Dear Cynghorwyr,

CABINET

Gofynnir i chi fynychu cyfarfod **Cabinet** a gynhelir yn **County Hall, Usk - Remote Attendance** ar **Dydd Mercher, 15fed Medi, 2021**, am **3.00 pm**.

AGENDA

1. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb
2. Datganiadau o Fuddiant
3. I ystyried yr adroddiadau canlynol (copdau ynghlwm):
4. SIR NODDFA: AILGARTREFIAD A CHYMORTH AFFGAN 1 - 16

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Sicrhau bod Sir Fynwy yn chwarae ei rhan wrth letya a chefnogi nifer o ddinasyddion Affgan sydd wedi gweithio gyda'r Fyddin Brydeinig. Mae hyn yn unol â Pholisi Ailgartrefu a Chymorth Affgan Llywodraeth y DU a'n hymrwymiad presennol i Sir Fynwy fod yn sir noddfa i'r rhai sy'n ffoi rhag erledigaeth.

Awdur: Matthew Gatehouse, Pennaeth Polisi, Perfformiad a Chraffu
Heather Powell, Rheolwr Cymunedau Cysylltiedig

Manylion Cyswllt: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk
heather.powell@newport.gov.uk

5. THEATR Y FWRDEISTREF, Y FENNI - RHAGLEN ADNEWYDDU 17 - 50

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Ystyried cefnogaeth y Weithrediaeth i'r buddsoddiad arfaethedig yn Theatr y Fwrdeistref, y Fenni i sicrhau bod y Theatr yn parhau i fod yn addas at y diben ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol ac yn ddeniadol i grwpiau defnyddwyr presennol a phobl sy'n mynd i'r theatr.

Awdur: Cath Fallon (Pennaeth Menter ac Animeiddio Cymunedol)

Manylion Cyswllt: cathfallon@monmouthshire.gov.uk

6. PROSIECTAU ADFYWIO A CHYFLWYNO GRANT CREU LLEOEDD 51 - 92

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Rhoi trosolwg i'r Cabinet o raglen Trawsnewid Trefi Llywodraeth Cymru a chyfleoedd cyllido cysylltiedig. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn nodi'r blaenoriaethu arfaethedig ar gyfer prosiectau y gellir eu cyflawni yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon er mwyn sicrhau'r cyllid, a'r trefniadau rheoli rhaglenni gweithredol a fydd yn cael eu gweithredu i fonitro cynnydd.

Ystyried trefniadau dros dro ar gyfer y treial dros dro ailagor mesurau trefi, tra bo opsiynau tymor hir yn cael eu cynllunio a'u hymgynghori.

Awdur: Mark Hand (Pennaeth Creu Lleodedd, Adfywio, Priffyrdd a Llifogydd)

Manylion Cyswllt: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk

7. COFRESTRU I'R SIARTER CYMRU CREU LLEOEDD 93 - 114

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Pwrpas yr adroddiad hwn yw ceisio cymeradwyaeth y Cabinet i'r cynnig bod Cyngor Sir Fynwy yn dod yn llofnodwr i Siarter Creu Lleodedd Cymru.

Awdur: Mark Hand Pennaeth Creu Lleodedd, Adfywio, Priffyrdd a Llifogydd
Craig O'Connor Pennaeth Cynllunio

Manylion Cyswllt: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk
craiggoconnor@monmouthshire.gov.uk

8. CÔD LLYWODRAETHU CORFFORAETHOL CYNGOR SIR FYNWY 2020 115 - 138

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Derbyn Côt Llywodraethu Corfforaethol wedi'i ddiweddarau gan y Cyngor i gefnogi cwblhau'r Datganiad Llywodraethu Blynnyddol (DLIB).

Awdur: Andrew Wathan, Prif Archwilydd Mewnol

Manylion Cyswllt: andrewwathan@monmouthshire.gov.uk

9. GWEITHGOR CRONFA EGLWYSI CYMRU 139 - 154

Adran/Wardiau yr Effeithir arnynt: I gyd

Pwrpas: Pwrpas yr adroddiad hwn yw gwneud argymhellion i'r Cabinet ar yr Amserlen Ceisiadau ar gyfer cyfarfod 4 Gweithgor Cronfa Eglwysi Cymru a

gynhaliwyd ar y 22^{ain} Gorffennaf 2021.

Awdur: David Jarrett - Uwch Gyfrifydd - Cymorth Busnes Cyllid Canolog

Manylion Cyswllt: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Paul Matthews
Chief Executive

PORTFFOLIOS CABINET

Cynghorydd Sir	Maes Cyfrifoldeb	Ward
Richard John	<p>Arweinydd Swyddog Arweiniol – Paul Matthews, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Strategaeth a Chyfeiriad yr Awdurdod cyfan Adolygu a Gwerthuso Perfformiad yr Awdurdod cyfan Cyd-gabinet Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd a Datblygu Rhanbarthol Gweithio Rhanbarthol Cysylltiadau â'r Llywodraeth Arweinydd ar Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus</p>	Llanfihangel Troddi
Sara Jones	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros yr Economi, Dirprwy Arweinydd Swyddog Arweiniol – Frances O'Brien</p> <p>Cadernid a Thwf Economaidd Creu Lleoedd ac Adfywio Buddsoddiad a Stiwardiaeth Canol Trefi Rheoli Datblygu a Rheoli Adeiladau Cysylltiadau Cyhoeddus / Cyfathrebu / Marchnata Sgiliau a Chyflogaeth Cysylltedd Band Eang Cymunedol</p>	Llanofor
Robert Greenland	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Lywodraethiant a Chynllunio Strategol, Dirprwy Arweinydd Swyddogion Arweiniol – Frances O'Brien, Matthew Phillips, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Cynllun Datblygu Lleol a Chynllun Datblygu Strategol Gwneud Penderfyniadau y Cyngor a'r Pwyllgor Gweithredol Adolygu'r Cyfansoddiad a Gweithredu Newid Y Gyfraith, Moeseg a Safonau Hyrwyddo Democratiaeth a Chyswllt â Dinasyddion Hybiau Cymunedol a Chanolfan Gyswllt Gwasanaeth a Phrofiad Cwsmeriaid yr Awdurdod cyfan</p>	Devauden

Philip Murphy	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Adnoddau Swyddogion Arweiniol – Peter Davies, Frances O'Brien, Matthew Phillips, Julie Boothroyd</p> <p>Cyllid Digidol a Thechnoleg Gwybodaeth (yn cynnwys SRS) Adnoddau Dynol, Cyflogres, Iechyd a Diogelwch Cynllunio Argyfwng Caffael Strategol Tir ac Adeiladau (yn cynnwys – Stad, Mynwentydd, Rhandroedd, Ffermydd) Rheoli Fflyd Cludiant Ysgol a Chymunedol (yn cynnwys comisiynu a chyflenwi) Cynnal a Chadw Eiddo Rheoli Cyfleusterau (yn cynnwys Glanhau Adeiladau ac Arlwyd)</p>	Caerwent
Paul Pavia	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg Swyddogion Arweiniol – Will McLean, Ian Saunders</p> <p>Addysg Blynnyddoedd Cynnar Addysg Statudol Pob Oed Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol / Cynhwysiant Hawl /Cynnig Ôl 16 Safonau a Gwellu Ysgolion (yn cynnwys comisiynu Gwasanaeth Cyflawni Addysg) Dysgu Cymunedol Rhaglen Ysgolion 21ain Ganrif Gwasanaeth Ieuencid / Gwasanaeth Addysg Awyr Agored / Cynllun Gwobr Dug Caeredin</p>	Larkfield
Lisa Dymock	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Lesiant Cymunedol a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Swyddogion Arweiniol – Frances O'Brien, Ian Saunders, Julie Boothroyd, Matt Gatehouse</p> <p>Anghydraddoldeb Cymunedol (Iechyd, Incwm, Maeth, Anfantais, Gwahaniaethu, Ynysigrwydd) Hybu'r Gymraeg Strategaeth Tai, Cyflenwi / Atal Digartrefedd Safonau Masnach / Iechyd yr Amgylchedd / Lles Anifeiliaid / Iechyd Cyhoeddus / Trwyddedu Diogelwch Cymunedol (yn cynnwys cyswllt â'r Heddlu) Gwasanaeth Cofrestryddion Gweithgaredd Corfforol (yn cynnwys Canolfannau Hamdden, Chwaraeon, Teithio Llesol, Chwarae) Cefn Gwlad, Bioamrywiaeth, Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus</p>	The Elms

	Gwybodaeth Ymwelwyr / Amgueddfeydd / Theatr / Atyniadau	
Penny Jones	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Ofal Cymdeithas, Diogelu ac Iechyd Swyddog Arweiniol – Julie Boothroyd</p> <p>Gwasanaethau Plant Maethu a Mabwysiadu Gwasanaeth Troseddu Ieuencid Gwasanaethau Oedolion Diogelu Awdurdod Cyfan (Plant ac Oedolion) Anableddau Iechyd Meddwl</p>	Rhaglan
Jane Pratt	<p>Aelod Cabinet dros Seilwaith a Gwasanaethau Cymdogaeth – Jane Pratt Swyddog Arweiniol– Frances O’Brien, Matthew Gatehouse</p> <p>Arweinydd yr Awdurdod cyfan ar Newid Hinsawdd/ Datgarboneiddio Trafnidiaeth Integredig Strategol (yn cynnwys cynllunio trafnidiaeth) Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Priffyrdd – Gweithgareddau Sirol / Awdurdod Cefnffyrdd De Cymru (SWTRA) Casglu Gwastraff / Ailgylchu / Glanhau Strydoedd / Goleuo Strydoedd Cynnal a Chadw Tiroedd, Parciau, Gofodau Agored a Chyfleusterau Cyhoeddus Lliniaru a Rheoli Llifogydd ac Adferiad</p>	Rhiw Llanelli

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Ein diben

Adeiladu Cymunedau Cynaliadwy a Chydnerth

Amcanion y gweithiwn tuag atynt

- Rhoi'r dechrau gorau posibl mewn bywyd i bobl
- Sir lewyrchus a chysylltiedig
- Cynyddu i'r eithaf botensial yr amgylchedd naturiol ac adeiledig
- Llesiant gydol oes
- Cyngor gyda ffocws ar y dyfodol

Ein Gwerthoedd

Bod yn agored. Rydym yn agored ac yn onest. Mae pobl yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt, dweud beth sy'n bwysig iddynt a gwneud pethau drostynt eu hunain/eu cymunedau. Os na allwn wneud rhywbeth i helpu, byddwn yn dweud hynny; os bydd yn cymryd peth amser i gael yr ateb, byddwn yn esbonio pam; os na allwn ateb yn syth, byddwn yn ceisio eich cysylltu gyda'r bobl a all helpu - mae adeiladu ymddiriedaeth ac ymgysylltu yn sylfaen allweddol.

Tegwch. Darparwn gyfleoedd teg, i helpu pobl a chymunedau i ffynnu. Os nad yw rhywbeth yn ymddangos yn deg, byddwn yn gwrando ac yn esbonio pam. Byddwn bob amser yn ceisio trin pawb yn deg ac yn gyson. Ni allwn wneud pawb yn hapus bob amser, ond byddwn yn ymrwmo i wrando ac esbonio pam y gwnaethom weithredu fel y gwnaethom.

Hyblygrwydd. Byddwn yn parhau i newid a bod yn hyblyg i alluogi cyflwyno'r gwasanaethau mwyaf effeithlon ac effeithiol. Mae hyn yn golygu ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i weithio gyda phawb i groesawu ffyrdd newydd o weithio.

Gwaith Tîm. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda chi a'n partneriaid i gefnogi ac ysbrydoli pawb i gymryd rhan fel y gallwn gyflawni pethau gwych gyda'n gilydd. Nid ydym yn gweld ein hunain fel 'trefnwyr' neu ddatrys-wyr problemau, ond gwnawn y gorau o syniadau, asedau ac adnoddau sydd ar gael i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud y pethau sy'n cael yr effaith mwyaf cadarnhaol ar ein pobl a lleoedd.

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SUBJECT: A COUNTY OF SANCTUARY: AFGHAN RELOCATION AND ASSISTANCE

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 15th September 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

To ensure that Monmouthshire plays its part in accommodating and supporting a number of Afghan nationals who have worked with the British Army. This is accordance with the UK Government's Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy and our existing commitment for Monmouthshire to be a county of sanctuary for those fleeing persecution.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the authority provides support for a number of families as part of the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy and works with partners to identify suitable accommodation in the county.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 This authority has previously made a commitment to support Afghan nationals who had risked their lives alongside British forces in Afghanistan serving as interpreters. Six interpreters have been supported as a result of the initial scheme which commenced in 2014.
- 3.2 The decision to withdraw military forces from Afghanistan has resulted in the need to urgently relocate people, known as Locally Employed Staff, who find themselves at increased risk in their homeland as a result of the work they have done for the UK Government. Eligibility will be determined by the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy. The Home Office will provide funding to all authorities who resettle Afghan Local Employed Staff and this will fund and enable delivery of integration support for families.
- 3.3 The authority works jointly with Newport City Council to support vulnerable people across the two authorities through a small joint team, hosted by Newport. Support workers help families with things like: registering with doctors; applying for school places; help with budgeting; getting to know the local area and assistance with job applications or accessing volunteering opportunities. There is sufficient capacity within the team to support three families over and above those already in the area, if Monmouthshire's commitment extends above this level, Home Office funding will enable the team to grow accordingly without additional staffing costs to the authority.

- 3.4 It is recognised that there may be concerns in some communities about the impact on local public services. While the numbers will be small it will still be important to ensure that these matters are addressed through on-the-ground engagement with local communities. Importantly, there have also been considerable offers of support from people and groups such Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary.
- 3.5 The Council has a Community Covenant in place that recognises the contribution of the Armed Forces. Support for the relocation of these Afghan nationals who have worked alongside the British Armed Forces is a natural extension of that commitment. It is also consistent with the position taken by Cabinet in June of this year, that the authority should be a county of sanctuary for those fleeing persecution.
- 3.6 Officers will engage with the relevant agencies, including our Registered Social Landlord partners, to identify suitable accommodation. This is likely to be the single biggest factor limiting the amount of support we can offer, due to the shortage of available homes. In particular there is a need for larger properties which will be affordable for families in the longer term and have access to the amenities they require such as halal shops and places of worship. Once properties are found, a matching exercise takes place to identify suitable families and support arrangements will then be put in place to manage the arrivals and ensure that families arriving have access to local amenities and support networks.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 There are a number of equalities and safeguarding issues. These include some of the difficulties that will be associated with arrivals living in a different cultural context which could cause difficulties settling into new communities. The majority are likely to be Muslim and there is not currently a mosque in the county for families to practice their faith. Army translators will be eligible for benefits after 3 months residing in the UK which means risks of poverty will be significantly lower than those arriving through the Asylum Dispersal Scheme. Given the nature of their arrival in the UK some may need emotional support or access to mental health services and close links with ABUHB will ensure that health screening takes place on arrival.
- 4.2 The resettlement and cohesion teams will provide culturally and linguistic appropriate integration support, including cultural orientation, employment support and access to training in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 The two clear options are either to participate in the scheme or not. There is a strong desire to engage positively in discussions and extend the offer of assistance to people who find themselves in the most difficult of circumstances. Not engaging in the scheme would place increased burden on other areas.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- 6.1 Evaluation criteria will be identified as the scheme is developed. These are likely to include measures related to access to housing, health services and education.

7. REASONS:

To ensure that Monmouthshire is able to play its part in accommodating its share of people fleeing persecution and ensuring that responsibility is shared across Wales and the UK

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Home Office will provide funding of up to £10,500 for each person settled as part of the scheme to enable provision of support. Additional funding is available to cover rental costs and other living expenses until individuals become eligible for benefits after three months. It is important that properties identified will be at rental levels which affordable for families in the longer term.

9. CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet
Housing and Communities Manager
Community Cohesion Officer

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHORS:

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy, Performance and Scrutiny
Heather Powell, Connected Communities Manager

12. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644397

e-mail: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk

e-mail: heather.powell@newport.gov.uk

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monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Integrated Impact Assessment document

(incorporating Equalities, Future Generations, Welsh Language and Socio Economic Duty)

Name of the Officer Matthew Gatehouse Phone no: 01633 644397 E-mail: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal To ensure that Monmouthshire plays its part in accommodating and supporting staff who have supported British armed forces as part of the UK Government Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy.
Name of Service area: Policy Performance and Scrutiny	Date: 6/9/21

Page 5

Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	It is likely that the resettlement will involve some families with younger children who are likely to benefit positively from the opportunities available in Monmouthshire.	Children arriving from Afghanistan may take time to adjust, for example to new school environments and learning a new language.	Ensure that we work with partners across all services to maximize the opportunities available to people of all ages who are resettled in the UK. Plan for any new pupils and engage with local schools.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Disability	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage.	Having experienced trauma, as a result of the need to rapidly depart Afghanistan, new arrivals may suffer with some anxiety and mental health issues. Some arrivals may also have physical disabilities.	We need to ensure that any arrivals with disabilities are able to access appropriate health services. The resettlement team will work with relevant colleagues (e.g. Occupational Health advisors) to ensure any properties and support take account of access needs.
Gender reassignment	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Marriage or civil partnership	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	
Pregnancy or maternity	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	Families that arrive may be expecting a child, or have a young baby.	The resettlement support team will ensure that appropriate services are provided to expectant mothers or young babies and that properties are suited to need.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Race	The scheme will offer improved opportunities to people of different nationalities.	Crossing cultures can be difficult in any context. Newly-arrived families may have limited knowledge of UK culture and could experience difficulties settling into local communities. However this is likely to be lesser for the translators and support staff who have been working on a daily basis with British citizens in Afghanistan, in some cases, for up to 20 years.	<p>There is the potential to work with local groups such as Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary which plays an active role in challenging misconceptions about refugees. The Community Cohesion Officer in MCC will also be supporting the resettlement scheme to ensure any emerging tensions are mitigated.</p> <p>Officers and partner agencies need to to anticipate where important differences or misunderstandings might occur with issues such as religion and ethnicity, food and drink, naming conventions, marriage, and child safeguarding. The resettlement and cohesion teams will provide culturally and linguistic appropriate integration support, including cultural orientation.</p> <p>Some family members may not be able to read or speak English, so putting in place arrangements interpreting and translating will be important but it is likely that at least one family member will speak English as a result of their roles. The resettlement team are also funded to provide ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) to resettling families.</p>

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Religion or Belief	The policy will offer the opportunity to live in a society which is more tolerant of diverse religious beliefs	It is possible that some people may be subject to discrimination or prejudice after arriving in the UK. The majority of Afghan families are likely to be Muslim, and it is recognized that there is not currently a Mosque in Monmouthshire for families to practice their faith.	Work with local groups such as Abergavenny Town of Sanctuary. The cohesion and resettlement teams will also support families with access to places of worship and monitor any emerging community tensions.
Sex	People experience greater freedom and opportunities than they would had they remained in a nation controlled by the Taliban.	It is recognized that gender roles may be perceived differently dependent on socio-cultural factors.	The resettlement and cohesion teams will provide culturally and linguistic appropriate integration support, including cultural orientation.
Sexual Orientation	People experience greater freedom and opportunities than they would had they remained in a nation controlled by the Taliban.	There are no specific impacts identified at this stage	

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	We will seek to ensure equality of opportunity for those who settle within the UK.	Locally Employed Staff will be eligible for benefits within 3 months of their arrival meaning they will soon receive the same level of financial support as UK residents. However, it may take time to secure suitable employment placing them at increased short-term risk of experiencing poverty.	Ensure appropriate accommodation is secured for new arrivals. This must be affordable and sustainable. The resettlement team will assist in supporting families to access employment opportunities.

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.



How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage	
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage	
Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	No specific impacts identified at this stage	Arrivals are unlikely to have any knowledge of the Welsh language which may limit their ability to engage in some cultural activities.	Ensure that those arriving in the county are offered the opportunity to learn the Welsh language.




4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	No specific impacts identified at this stage	No specific impacts identified at this stage
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	No specific impacts are identified against this goal.	No specific impacts or actions are identified against this goal.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	Families are likely to have experienced significant trauma and are likely to need additional levels of health support.	Ensure effective communication with health professionals including local GPs. Close linked exist with ABUHB specialist teams who provide health screenings for families on arrival.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Communities can grow and thrive from diversity and exposures to the ideas and cultures of those from other nations..	Inform and prepare local communities for the arrival of families will be an essential part of the relocation process. Work with the authority's Prevent Lead to ensure appropriate advice and awareness raising.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Offering sanctuary to people fleeing persecution in other nations is a positive contributor to global well-being.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People	Cultures can thrive from diversity. New settlers are unlikely to have any knowledge of Welsh language of culture	Ensure that those arriving in the county are offered the opportunity to learn the Welsh language and understand cultural traditions.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation		
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Resettlement will help people fulfill their potential and offer a positive contribution to local communities in the time they live with us.	

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	While the immediate challenge is short term, the council's commitment to be a county of sanctuary is grounded in the desire for Monmouthshire to be a welcoming place where people will settle and make an active contribution for many years to come, while minimizing long-term harms to those assisted compared to the long-term outcomes they would have expected to experience in Afghanistan.	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	This paper is seeking a decision in principle to engage in the scheme and so we have not yet begun any collaborative activity beyond learning from others experiences	We will collaborate with others involved in the scheme, The Home Office and the Wales Strategic Migration Partnership hosted by the WLGA to continuously develop our approach. We will also collaborate with statutory partners, the voluntary sectors and local groups and charities

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Further involvement will continue to involve a broad range of stakeholders in shaping the proposals.</p>	
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>Engaging in this scheme will prevent the immediate challenges of finding accommodation being concentrated in a small number of areas and will prevent individual families potentially coming to harm, under the new government in Afghanistan as a result of their work for the UK Government</p>	
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>.This work will be integrated with other projects focused on community cohesion.</p>	<p>We will engage with partners across the Public Service Board where relevant to integrate this programme into others within the well-being plan.</p>

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	No specific impacts are identified against this goal at this stage. However it will be kept under review as more information is identified.	.There are likely to be differences in peoples understanding of safeguarding practices, particularly their perceptions of authorities, including police and social services.	<p>Communicate any relevant cultural information to schools, social workers and other front-line staff likely to be involved with families so issues can be addressed sensitively.</p> <p>Inform arriving families are informed about laws in the UK in the first weeks of arrival, and implications of non-compliance.</p> <p>The resettlement and cohesion teams will provide culturally and linguistic appropriate integration support, including cultural orientation.</p>
Corporate Parenting	No specific impacts are identified against this goal	No specific impacts are identified against this goal	

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

We have drawn on previous experiences of the authority in operating the 2014 Afghan Translator Resettlement and the later Syrian Resettlement Scheme. https://www.midlandsandlancashirecsu.nhs.uk/download/publications/equality_and_inclusion/Asylum-Guidance.pdf

Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan (Welsh Government) - <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-06/progress-report-update-june-2020.pdf>

Engagement with Afghan families living in south east Wales has been undertaken by the Community Cohesion Officer to get a fuller understanding of languages and religion.

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

There are a number of equalities and safeguarding issues. These include some of the difficulties that will be associated with arrivals living in a different cultural context which could cause difficulties settling into new communities. The majority are likely to be Muslim and there is not currently a mosque in the county for families to practice their faith. Army translators will be eligible for benefits after 3 months residing in the UK which means risks of poverty will be significantly lower than those arriving through the Asylum Dispersal Scheme. Given the nature of their arrival in the UK some may need emotional support or access to mental health services and close links with ABUHB will ensure that health screening takes place on arrival.

The resettlement and cohesion teams will provide culturally and linguistic appropriate integration support, including cultural orientation, employment support and access to training in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Form a working group of key professionals in the local authority and partner agencies to plan for the scheme	August 2021	Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny
Liaise with the Prevent lead officer to ensure risks are fully understood and mitigated	August 2021	Head of Policy Performance and Scrutiny

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Officer Development	25/8/21	Refinement of impact on potential characteristics following review if impact assessment by Connected Communities Manager
2	Cabinet – Informal Consultation	-	No amendments made

SUBJECT: BOROUGH THEATRE, ABERGAVENNY– REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 15TH SEPTEMBER 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To consider Executive support for the proposed investment at the Borough Theatre, Abergavenny to ensure that the Theatre remains fit for purpose for future generations and attractive to existing user groups and theatre goers.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To support the proposed investment at the Borough Theatre, Abergavenny whilst acknowledging the funding shortfall to be met, prior to presentation to Council for decision on 23rd September 2021.
- 2.2 To recognise the meeting being held with Abergavenny Town Council on the 15th September 2021 to discuss the extended refurbishment project.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The Borough Theatre is located on the second floor of the Grade II listed Abergavenny Town Hall building. Since it's opening, the Theatre has been, for the majority of its life, owned and managed by Monmouthshire County Council (MCC), save for its recent history when it was taken over by a Charitable Trust in 2013 however following Cabinet approval, ownership returned to MCC in February 2018, following the surrender of the lease.
- 3.2 In making its decision, the Council agreed to review all operations of the Theatre over a six-month period and, following a situation analysis and options appraisal, in July 2018, [Cabinet](#) approved the recruitment of a full time Theatre Manager, with supporting Front of House Supervisors, in order to put the Theatre on a more stable footing and determine the medium/longer term future for the Theatre.
- 3.3 Since then, the Theatre Team have been working with the Arts Council of Wales to develop a long-term plan for the Theatre which has included an approved funding application for the refurbishment of the theatre which has been largely untouched since an investment by Monmouth Borough Council in 1991.

3.4 Situational Analysis

Since returning to MCC, all the Theatre's operations have been aligned with the Council's systems, policies and procedures, addressing previous concerns raised by Internal Audit. Table One below details a current SWOT analysis of the Theatre for the benefit of Members:

Table One: SWOT Analysis of the Theatre

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long established and high-profile Theatre venue; Located in an Iconic Grade II Listed building; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall state of the building. The current offer is tired i.e., building, and physical layout with limited accessibility, leading to reduced income generation opportunities;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well established and loyal audience; • Committed and knowledgeable staff team; • Energetic and creative Theatre Manager appointed to take the theatre forward; • Strong, skilled, committed, and growing volunteer base; • Patronised by an energetic local amateur dramatic arts sector; • Arts Council for Wales grant funding to replace ageing lighting and sound equipment; • Long established support and fundraising group, A4B; • A varied and established programme of events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor state of customer facilities (toilets/bar/seating/carpets/etc.); • Staff team have been disjointed due to differing work locations leading to communication failures and are also frustrated due to management changes over the last few years; • Limited digital marketing activity leading to increased traditional marketing costs i.e., direct mailing of hard copy brochures; • Due to the nature of the industry, grant support funding will always be required. • Venue under-utilised during periods of time particularly daytime.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCC's capital improvement plans of the Town Hall/Market/Library "The HUB" with improved visitor accessibility; • New energetic and creative Theatre Manager appointed; • Revitalised Friends Scheme; • Corporate sponsorship and public sector funding opportunities e.g., Arts Council for Wales (ACW), CADW; • Income generation via hire agreements; • Ability to deliver on ACW funding priorities – Creative Learning, Youth Engagement etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing public sector funding budgets; • Current closure due to Covid 19 and whilst capital improvement works were being undertaken in the Town Hall leading to loss in income; • Growing competition from theatre and arts venues in the town and wider environs e.g., Monmouth, Newport, Cardiff

3.5 Proposed Refurbishment Programme

3.5.1 The Capital development plans for the Borough Theatre are designed to support and enhance the five key goals of its business plan:

- To be an open, efficient, effective, and sustainable operation that looks outward for best practice and shares its stories of success;
- To provide a premier quality of customer service and experience whether presenting international performers, local community groups or a primary school celebration;
- To be a venue where the amateur, non-specialist, student, apprentice or curious can become involved in presenting theatre and performing arts exploring professional practice and approaches in a safe and well facilitated environment;
- To be flexible to the needs of our community of audiences, visitors, and performers to enjoy performances, participatory arts sessions, and arts encounters in a number of different ways and to recognise their different needs, challenges, and aspirations;
- To present a programme of events that draws from the local to global and celebrates, entertains, challenges, and engages our community and those who come to visit us.

3.5.2 The proposed works will address many of the issues detailed in the SWOT in Table One above and will include the following as detailed in Table Two:

Table Two: Proposed Refurbishment Works

Item	Rationale	Risks/Mitigation
Replacement of old, tired fixed seating with retractable seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conforms to latest H & S requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk: New seating layout results in in fewer seats 275 compared to 327 previously to improve accessibility

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable, stable, carpeted – can be retracted effortlessly and quickly. • Offers flexibility of space to hirers that fixed seating does not e.g., catwalk, Cabaret style seating, standing venue; • Greater opportunity for additional performances, a more diverse programme, increased customer base and access to additional funding and income streams. 	<p>by enabling a level passage from front to back.</p> <p>Mitigation: Over a 12-month cycle financial model will not lead to loss in revenue due to the new opportunities offered by the flexible space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk: Smaller orchestra pit will result in changes to visiting orchestra's configurations. • Mitigation: Task and Finish User Group to identify alternative configurations for space.
Replacement combined Heating and Cooling System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current heating system ineffective leading to inconsistent temperatures. • Air conditioning units difficult to maintain. • Unacceptable noise levels. • Compromises visual aspect of Grade I listed carved wooden beams in ceiling. • Existing system slow to respond leading to customer complaints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk: Current system recycles existing air so is not Covid compliant. • Mitigation: Replace existing system with efficient fresh air system.
Replacement Wire Tension Lighting Grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current system difficult to access resulting in H & S risk to technicians. • Installation of wire tension grid over floor area, accessed safely from the lighting box; • Grid to enable lone focusing of the lights by venue staff and for non-specialists to set up lighting under the supervision and tutorage of the staff; • Visual impact would be minimal and, combined with replacement Heating and Cooling System, enables improved architectural lighting of beams and ceiling for certain events; • Removal of middle stage baffle, fitting of mechanical onstage lighting bar and a manual scenery bar for optional masking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk: Current system is a safety risk to staff • Mitigation: Replacement grid to improve access, reduce safety risk and enable involvement of non-specialist staff thus reducing resource costs.

Improved Foyer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current area unwelcoming to guests Bar area split into two resulting in queues and loss of sales and additional resource costs. 	Risk: If left as it is, opportunity lost and reduces impact of other works Mitigation: Remodeling of area to one bar will lead to better ambience, increase in bar sales and income generation opportunities through secondary spend, reduced staffing costs.
Increase in number of toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current toilets unfit for purpose, tired, limited disabled facilities. 	Risk: Insufficient toilets for audience figures which do not meet current standards. Mitigation: Replace and increase toilets to be gender interchangeable according to event needs.
Move Box Office to shared space with TIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous Box Office area now providing space for replacement customer lift 	Risk: Lack of Box Office will lead to a failure to meet service requirements and a loss in ticket sales Mitigation: Move Box Office into shared space with Tourist Information Centre to reduce costs and increase visitor footfall and sales.
Refresh the backstage area, dressing rooms and Corn Exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently these areas are tired and shabby 	Risk: Failure to address will lead to an income opportunity lost. Mitigation: Refresh i.e., repairs and painting, replacement kitchen to Corn Exchange to maximise income opportunities.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 The assessment of Equality and Future Generations Evaluation (Appendix A) is summarised below for Members' consideration:

This proposal seeks to undertake a significant refurbishment of the Borough Theatre that will re-establish the venue as a key cultural asset to the County, providing an opportunity to develop a sustainable service offer that is fit for future purpose and relevant for future generations.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

5.1 Table Three below provides an options appraisal of the proposal:

Table Three: Options Appraisal

Options	Benefits	Risks	Comments/Mitigation
Close the Theatre and mothball the space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of iconic cultural venue in the town Loss of funding secured to date Loss of Professional Arts programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undermines the Council's commitment to safeguard the venue for future generations and one of the Council's five key policy priorities i.e., C: Maximise the potential of the natural and built environment - <i>We will continue to recognise the value of our culture and heritage in</i>

			<i>enhancing the liveability of our County.</i>
Make safe the venue as it stands i.e., with old seating removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat floor, community space for hire • Minimal staff resource required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of funding secured to date • Limited revenue generation potential • Loss of professional Arts Programme • Limited facilities offer 	
Phased Approach to refurbishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phased funding requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theatre unable to operate fully until all phases complete • Costs likely to rise and income generation potential limited until works are complete • Losses likely to outweigh benefits 	
Preferred Option: Identify funding and proceed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a fit for future purpose cultural arts facility in the county • Refurbished theatre will enable the team to build a sustainable business model • Detailed plans and arrangements are in situ and ready to go • Potential for borrowing and making repayments on some of the required funds is a realistic option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital funding request will be denied • Project will be stalled, and funding lost 	

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 The Borough Theatre, Abergavenny is a much loved and utilised cultural, community and civic asset. In its current state it is tired and shabby with fittings that are well beyond their service life. In addition, the current décor, signage and operation is separate from the rest of the Market Hall building detracting from the fact that the theatre provides an integral service to the local community and attracts visitors to the town.
- 6.2 This project seeks to capitalise opportunities presented by the recent works carried out to the Market Hall and Town Hall by the Council, to present a refreshed, professional theatre which will be equipped to continue to provide a space for the professional, the amateur, the regular or the newcomer to enjoy and experience high quality cultural experiences. The project will ensure the Theatre is an accessible, professional, artistic resource that alongside the library,

community learning space and market, provides North Monmouthshire and the wider County, with an exciting cultural resource.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 The tables below detail the expenditure to date and the current costs of the proposed refurbishment programme alongside the proposed funding options that are currently being considered.

7.2 **Table Four:** Expenditure to date

Table Four provides an analysis of the detailed design and survey activity that has already been undertaken to minimise future financial risks once the construction work commences:

Details	Forecast Expenditure £
Construction/Investigation and enabling Costs	62,500
Professional Fees	63,129
Internal project management costs	68,632
Planning and building control costs	3,048
Total Project Expenditure to date	£197,309
Funding Drawn down	
Arts Council for Wales Grant	12,136
Abergavenny Town Council	50,000
MCC Capital Budget	135,173
Total Funding Confirmed	£197,309

7.2 Table Five that follows, outlines the current financial position of the project. The estimated outstanding cost of the refurbishment is therefore £1,042,624 (this is on top of the £197k already incurred), current available budget stands at £309,624 so there is a £728,943 shortfall to be managed. The bottom half of the table identifies how Officers intend to fund the shortfall, currently £450k of funding has been secured via WG Transforming Towns grant and MCC grant match funding leaving £278k still to be found. A £107k contingency figure of circa 10% has been built into the cost model, this is standard practice and will be held outside of the contract, it will be used to cover any additional costs that may arise that may arise due to unexpected difficulties caused by the age and nature of the building. The Council's Property Service team will also continue to investigate opportunities to value engineer the project in order to reduce the costs.

Table Five: Refurbishment Costs and funding options

Details	Forecast Expenditure £
Construction Costs	918,848
Professional Fees	16,673
Contingency	107,103
Total Project Expenditure	1,042,624
Funding Confirmed	
Arts Council for Wales Grant	198,854
ACW Additional Award	50,000
MCC Capital Budget	64,827
Total Funding Confirmed	313,681
Funding To be Confirmed	728,943
WG Transforming Towns	175,000*
MCC Match Funding Transforming Towns	175,000
MCC Access for All	100,000
Resource still being determined	278,943
Total	728,943

*Endorsed by Welsh Government Senior Official, subject to the appraisal of the more detailed application.

- 7.5 An Extra Ordinary meeting is being held with Abergavenny Town Council on the 15th September to discuss the extended refurbishment project and the funding shortfall that is still be addressed. The Council consider the Town Council to be a key stakeholder and are appreciative of the financial support offered to date and hope that they will consider this proposal favourably.

8. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team;
Cabinet;
User Stakeholder Group;
Economy and Development Select Committee
Abergavenny Town Council

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix B - Service Business Plan

- 10. AUTHOR:** Cath Fallon (Head of Enterprise and Community Animation)

- 11. CONTACT DETAILS:** E-mail: cathfallon@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07557 190969



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Future Generations Evaluation (includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact)

Name of the Officer Cath Fallon Phone no: 07557 190969 E-mail: cathfallon@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Borough Theatre Refurbishment
Name of Service: Enterprise and Community Animation	Date: Future Generations Evaluation 30 th July 2021

NB. Key strategies and documents that may help you identify your contribution to the wellbeing goals and sustainable development principles include: Single Integrated Plan, Continuance Agreement, Improvement Plan, Local Development Plan, People Strategy, Asset Management Plan, Green Infrastructure SPG, Welsh Language Standards, etc.

- 1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any group.	The proposal seeks to address the negative issues that currently prevent the Theatre from offering an equitable service to all users.	<p>The refurbishment proposal seeks to provide a fit for future purpose professional theatre which is accessible to all, regardless of their age, disability or any other protected characteristic.</p> <p>Works therefore include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the installation of lifts at the front entrance where previously only a service lift was available. Improved retractable seating which is more comfortable and more easily accessible and can also be pushed back so the auditorium can be used as a flat space. Additional space in the auditorium for wheelchair users.
Disability	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any group,	As above	As above
Gender reassignment	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any group,	As above	Positive impacts of the proposal will be addressed on an on-going basis.
Marriage or civil partnership	Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any group,	As above	As above
Pregnancy or maternity	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Race	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Religion or Belief	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Sex	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above
Sexual Orientation	<i>Each new proposal will need to be assessed individually to consider if it impacts disproportionately on any particular group,</i>	As above	As above

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
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Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	<i>Under the Welsh Language measure of 2011, we need to be considering Welsh Language in signage, documentation, posters, language skills etc.and also the requirement to promote the language</i>	<i>None identified</i>	<p>The refurbishment project contractors will be using local employees and suppliers which will have a positive impact on the local supply chain.</p> <p>We will be broadening our volunteer programme to provide opportunities for people to gain new work skills.</p> <p>The Team will also continue to develop the work with young people with experience of the care system, creative work around food poverty and work for young families.</p>
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3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language, no less favourably		To ensure any potentially negative impacts are mitigated the team will ensure that all procurement and promotional exercises comply with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Council's Welsh Language Standards.	Every opportunity will be taken to increase the use of the Welsh language where appropriate.
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce		As additional posts become available within the Theatre Team consideration will be given to the need for an ability to communicate through the medium of Welsh.	As above
Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language		Consideration will be given to the promotion of welsh language services during the procurement process and during the day-to-day delivery of the Theatre service. All publicity material, posters, adverts, social media (Facebook and twitter) will be bilingual.	As above.

4. **Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will continue to provide wider activities, training and events to support our volunteers beyond their activities in the theatre and during the refurbishment process. We will look at what qualifications and benefits such as time credits that may be appropriate to our volunteers. We will identify what different kinds of volunteering opportunities we can offer and identify partners such as the local schools or Abergavenny Community Centre who may support us in this goal. 	Robust monitoring arrangements will be put in place to ensure that the mutually beneficial arrangements comply with legislative requirements particularly regarding contributions to the Well Being goals.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	N/A	As above



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the Theatre re-opens following the refurbishment, we will work with our colleagues in the Community Learning team, Youth Employment and skills team and Library service to maximise opportunities for learning created by the programme and activities of the theatre. We will continue to find ways to present performative and creative "moments" around the Market Hall and town centre. We recognise the anxiety and worry that venturing out for essential shopping and for many people who have been particularly isolated this will continue to an extent as restrictions are lifted. We found that the gentle cultural interventions presented bring a calmness and joy to the public realm that has been missing without creating crowding or inappropriate risk. 	As above
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will proactively seek to present authentic work and artists from cultures that are less prominent or visible in Abergavenny and North Monmouthshire as part of our programme mix. We will mount a series of open stakeholder events in different formats and contexts to engage with a variety of voices and communities to test and explore the services the theatre offers. 	Where opportunities arise more specific details regarding contributions to the wellbeing goals will be identified through regular reviews of activities.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are rolling out e-tickets to reduce the use of paper and energy use in the production, distribution and collection of paper tickets. 	As above



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
social, economic and environmental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our current refurbishment is bringing improvements to the energy efficiency of our heating and cooling and the general energy efficiency of the heating, cooling and lighting of the space. • We have increased the use of digital marketing materials and e-lists to reduce use of paper brochures and posters. • We have moved to compostable cups in our bar to replace single use plastic and will investigate the introduction of offering customers reusable cups and providing facilities for customers to refill their own water bottles. • We are committed to stocking local produce where possible. For rider and function catering we look to work with food suppliers from the market we share a building with to reduce food miles. • We have streamlined the product lines to reduce wastage and reduce the amount of stock needed to be kept chilled. • We have been steadily increasing the use of LED and energy efficient lighting in the theatre and the wider building and our refurbishment will accelerate this. 	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The team will continue to develop the website and digital channels content ensuring that it has the 	n/a

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	<p>relevant information needed and it is accessible and bilingual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Team will continue to develop a full, cultural arts programme that supports and promotes the use of the Welsh Language. 	
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will look at the diversity of our catchment area compared to the postal codes who have historically attended our shows. We will then devise specific strategies to engage and build audiences in these 'not' or 'cold' spots. We will develop a clear written programming strategy articulating our priorities and intentions. 	Where opportunities arise more specific details regarding contributions to the Well Being goals will be identified through regular reviews of activities.

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	This proposal seeks to transform the existing Theatre into a fully functional professional Theatre that is suitable for the needs of future generations.	New activities associated with this proposal will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Throughout the development of this proposal the Team has sought to actively engage with local stakeholders and user groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A tour of the theatre was hosted by the Team and led by Cllr Lisa Dymock, Cabinet Member for Social Justice and Community Well-Being, on the 23rd July 2021, when the Team were able to talk and walk the groups, through the plans which had previously been shared via Zoom and video presentations on the 24th March 2021. • The Team also invited the same representatives to a follow up 'Question and Answer' session Chaired by Cllr Lisa Dymock, at County Hall, Usk on the 26th July 2021 where the attached presentation was given. 	<p>New activities associated with this proposal will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.</p>
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>Stakeholder engagements events have been held to seek views regarding the proposed refurbishment programme as detailed above. In addition, a Task and Finish User Group has been established to explore the potential configuration options for the Orchestra Pit which will include the Theatre's Design Team.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The Theatre in its current state is tired and shabby with fittings that are well beyond their service life. This refurbishment programme has been extensively investigated to ensure that the interventions proposed will prepare the service so it is fit for future purpose.</p>	<p>New activities associated with this proposal will be expected to produce a Future Generations Evaluation when they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision</p>
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The Theatre Team continue to work with the Arts Council for Wales and Creu Cymru to develop sustainable relationships to benefit Monmouthshire's artistic and cultural community.</p>	<p>As above</p>

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	<p><i>During the delivery of the programme of activities associated with the proposal, safeguarding will be at the forefront to ensure that any future service delivery promotes the well-being of children and vulnerable adults, preventing them from being harmed and protecting those who are at risk of abuse and neglect.</i></p>	<p>The purpose of this proposal is to be inclusive to all therefore no negative impacts are anticipated in relation to this particular activity.</p>	<p>Where any negative impacts are identified the team will seek to address them by taking an inclusive approach.</p>
Corporate Parenting	n/a	As above	As above

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

This proposal is founded upon the following:

- The proposal has been developed with input and support from the Arts Council of Wales;
- The Borough Theatre's gross box office income has averaged around £280,000 per annum from ticket sales of circa 25,000 tickets per annum from 2016 – 2020;
- Turnover is approximately £450,000 with additional income from hire fees, secondary spend (bars and merchandise) and grants;
- The Theatre's first priority is to sustain and increase this level of turnover, income and attendance;
- In line with other arts and entertainment sector venues, the team will also seek to build additional revenue from new business and different types of events.

And has also been informed by the following policies and Acts:

- The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act;
- Prosperity for All;
- Welsh Language Act;
- Socio-Economic Duty;
- The Well-being Assessment and the Population Needs Assessment;
- Equality Act 2010;
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission's "Is Wales Fairer 2018" report.

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

This proposal seeks to undertake a significant refurbishment of the Borough Theatre that will re-establish the venue as a key cultural asset to the County, providing an opportunity to develop a sustainable service offer that is fit for future purpose and relevant for future generations.

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Seek considered views of the proposal	Economy and Development Select Committee 7 th September	Cath Fallon	
Cabinet	15 th September 2021	Cath Fallon	

10.VERSION CONTROL: The Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	<i>Scrutiny</i>	<i>7th September 2021</i>	
2	<i>Cabinet</i>	<i>15th September 2021</i>	
3	<i>Council</i>	<i>23rd September 2021</i>	

SERVICE BUSINESS PLAN 2021 - 2024

SERVICE:

Manager: David Baxter

Directorate: Enterprise

Head of Service: Cath Fallon

Date of most recent update: Wednesday, 22 September 2021

OUR VALUES

- Teamwork
- Openness
- Fairness
- Flexibility

OUR SERVICE AIM

"We operate a **theatre** in the heart of Abergavenny where we promote **community, enjoyment, discussion, inspiration, education and joy** by providing a **stimulating, suitable, safe, and supportive** physical space where **artists, philosophers, orators, poets, academics, teachers, civic leaders, experts and enthusiasts** can **share stories, sounds, ideas, insight, opinions and passions** with their **peers, the local community and the wider world.**"

RESOURCES

Staffing

- We currently have 5.3 Full Time Equivalent Posts. (This includes casual posts)
- Professional staff have significant expertise and training and there is a well-motivated volunteer base.

Facilities

- The refurbishment and internal improvements will create an attractive and high-quality facility.

Audience/Customer Base and data

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Operational

1. To refurbish and upgrade the theatre so that it meets contemporary standards of safety, operation, and comfort.
2. To ensure we have fit for purpose processes and procedures to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the theatre that meets industry norms and standards.
3. To ensure we have the appropriately staff and volunteer resources and structures to be able to operate efficiently and effectively and be a place for learning and development.

Artistic

4. To present a balanced programme of events and activities that are financially sustainable.
5. To be a suitable space for local productions, events and creative ambition.
6. To support Abergavenny and the wider area as an attractive place to live, work and visit by developing events and cultural series of interest beyond our borders.
7. To be a leader for the development of cultural activities that promote the economic and social wellbeing of Abergavenny and the surrounding area.

Marketing and Sales

8. Develop our website and digital channels content ensuring that it has the relevant information needed and it is accessible and bilingual.
9. Investigate, develop, and instigate a "Friends" scheme and an "adopt a seat" scheme.
10. Look to maximise customer spend through up-selling at point of sales, looking at branded merchandise and identifying and exploiting promotional channels.
11. Utilise our marketing and sales systems to create regular customer analytics to grow our audience and their attendance frequency.

Business and administration.

12. To create a comprehensive 5-year business plan that reflects the opportunities and possibilities of the refurbishment.
13. To identify and install a new Bar Point of Sale system

MEASURES/MILESTONES

1. Refurbishment of the theatre auditorium, bar, and toilets alongside the installation of a new heating cooling system and wire tension grid.
2. Completion of the new Box office area.
3. Completion of the inhouse improvements to the backstage areas.
4. Completion of "Operating handbook"
5. Completion of review of staffing levels.
6. Completion of our service "offer" document.
7. Completion of our sales and marketing plan.
8. Completion of 5yr Business Plan.
9. Hitting our retained income, attendance, and events target.

KEY RISKS

1. Public funding for non-saturary services face significant pressure.
2. Available financial resources don't allow us to deliver the vision that will allow us to become more sustainable and cost effective in the medium term.
3. The refurbishment work has faced significant challenges and delays and this causes concerns and friction with the wider public.
4. The current human resources are based on a historical model and struggles to support the expected level of activities without significant additional overtime.
5. This could mean available staff and volunteers too insufficient to deliver service .
6. Activities and operations of other services in the building impact on the succesful delivery of the theatre's service and vice versa.
7. Audience and public attendance habits are unknown post Covid-19.



- There is a wide audience base, and our box office system has significant analysis tools that with trained staff resource can be utilised to better target sales.

Revenue Budget

- Retained income (the money retained by the theatre after the deduction of production costs/fees/promoter share and royalties etc)

Other Resources

- We receive funding and support from the Arts Council of Wales, and this is a key relationship as is Creu Cymru the network for theatre in Wales which provides training and networking opportunities in addition to some funding.

Income Growth

- Through a strong brand, cultural offer, and quality service we are looking to grow our retained income, secondary spend (bars, merchandising), service income (marketing and box office), sponsorship and external funding.

8. Resistance to changes to hire arrangements – challenge of setting sustainable charges that are affordable to the theatre and the hirers/users.



TRACK, ASSESS & PROCEED

RAG
key:

Progressing
well



Progressing but not on
target



Attention needed



Our Actions	Who & When	Alignment: Objective & Plan	What have we done	RAG	What impact is this action having?	How we can evidence this?	What next?
			<i>Section Completed Quarterly</i>		<i>Section Completed Annually</i>	<i>Section Completed Annually</i>	<i>Section Completed Annually</i>
Refurbishment of the theatre auditorium, bar, and toilets alongside the installation of a new heating cooling system and wire tension grid.		Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.		A			
Appoint Principal contractor for refurbishment	Theatre refurbishment team – Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Completed design work and started the procurement process	G			
Identify any budget shortfall and secure additional funds needed to complete project	Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Costs clearer through procurement process, details being drafted to discuss internally and with Arts Council Wales.	R			

Launch adopt a seat and fundraising schemes for refurbishment.	Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Research into other schemes compiled. Need to investigate VAT status/charges	G
Manage opening timetable communicating with hirers, promoters and public and the programme of events for when theatre is ready to open.	Ongoing	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Meetings arranged with local groups, promoters being contacted in date order.	G
Completion of the new Box office area.	Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Received funding from Abergavenny Town Council for installation and arranged designed of bespoke furniture to match TIC installation	A
To identify and install a new Bar Point of Sale system	Q1	Future-Focused council	Identified system looking to install in line with opening timetable.	
Completion of the inhouse improvements to the backstage areas	Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	In house technical team identified projects and opportunities.	G
Draw up plan and discuss with facilities (landlord services)	Q1	Maximise the potential of the Natural and Built environment.	Drafted plan and list of achievable activity.	G

To ensure we have fit for purpose processes and procedures to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the theatre that meets industry norms and standards.				
Implementation of YesPlan System customised to Borough Theatre	Ongoing	Future-Focused council	System set up as a diary and contact manger. Corn Exchange hire forms created. Production sheets and main contracting in process.	G
Completion of “Operating handbook” -.		Future-Focused council		G
Listing of key processes.	Q1	Future-Focused council		G
Produce Process maps for each process.	Q2	Future-Focused council		G
Completion of review of staffing and volunteer levels.	Q2	Future-Focused council		G
Create an indicative events schedule and rota to access typical staffing levels over a four-week period.	Q2	Future-Focused council		G
Identify a training curriculum, plan and schedule for staff and volunteers	Q3	Future-Focused council		G

Completion of our service “offer” document.		Future-Focused council	G			
Create menu of services	Q2	Future-Focused council	G			
Create price list		Future-Focused council	G			
Finalise Terms and Conditions.		Future-Focused council	G			
Completion of our sales and marketing plan.		Future-Focused council	G			
Develop our website and digital channels content ensuring that it has the relevant information needed and it is accessible and bilingual.	Q1	Future-Focused council	G			
Investigate, develop, and instigate a “Friends” scheme	Q2	Future-Focused council	G			
Produce quarterly customer analytics reports.	Q3	Future-Focused council	G			
Completion of 5yr Business Plan. Hitting our retained income, attendance, and events target.		Future-Focused council	G			
Completion of programme strategy	Q2	Lifelong well-being & Best Possible Start in Life	G			

Development plan for local users	Q2	Lifelong well-being		G
Create working group for development of an Abergavenny "Folk" Festival	Q3	Lifelong well-being		G

How does our work contribute to the seven national wellbeing goals?

Section Completed Annually

A Wales of vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language

- We will present Welsh language and bilingual theatre and music events and examine how events can serve welsh speakers and support welsh learners.
- We will work with partners to find ways to promote the welsh language.
- We will treat the welsh and english languages equally in our print and digital communications.

A Globally responsible Wales

- We are rolling out e-tickets to reduce the use of paper and energy use in the production, distribution and collection of paper tickets.
- We have increased the use of digital marketing materials and e-lists to reduce use of paper brochures and posters.
- We have moved to compostable cups in our bar to replace single use plastic and will investigate the introduction of offering customers reusable cups and providing facilities for customers to refill their own water bottles.
- We are committed to stocking local produce where possible. For rider and function catering we look to work with food suppliers from the market we share a building with to reduce food miles.

- We have streamlined the product lines to reduce wastage and reduce the amount of stock needed to be kept chilled.
- We have been steadily increasing the use of LED and energy efficient lighting in the theatre and the wider building and our refurbishment will accelerate this.
- Our current refurbishment is bringing improvements to the energy efficiency of our heating and cooling and the general energy efficiency of the heating, cooling and lighting of the space.

A Prosperous Wales

- We will continue to provide wider activities, training and events to support our volunteers beyond their activities in the theatre.
- We will look at what qualifications and benefits such as time credits that may be appropriate to our volunteers.
- We will identify what different kinds of volunteering opportunities we can offer and identify partners such as the local schools or Abergavenny Community Centre who may support us in this goal.

A resilient Wales

- Work to establish an outreach programme working with partners both within Monmouthshire County Council and beyond to particularly but not restricted to continue and develop the work with young people with experience of the care system, creative work around food poverty and work for young families

A healthier Wales

- As we open, we will work with our colleagues in the Community Learning team, Youth Employment and skills team and Library service to maximise opportunities for learning created by the programme and activities of the theatre.
- We will continue to find ways to present performative and creative “moments” around the Market Hall and town centre. We recognise the anxiety and worry that venturing out for essential

shopping and for many people who have been particularly isolated this will continue to an extent as restrictions are lifted. We found that the gentle cultural interventions presented bring a calmness and joy to the public realm that has been missing without creating crowding or inappropriate risk.

A more equal Wales

- We will look at the diversity of our catchment area compared to the postal codes who have historically attended our shows. We will then devise specific strategies to engage and build audiences in these 'not' or 'cold' spots.
- We will develop a clear written programming strategy articulating our priorities and intentions.

A Wales of cohesive communities

- We will proactively present authentic work and artists from cultures that are less prominent or visible in Abergavenny and North Monmouthshire as part of our programme mix.
- We will mount a series of open stakeholder events in different formats and contexts to engage with a variety of voices and communities to test and explore the services the theatre offers.

Five Ways

Long-term

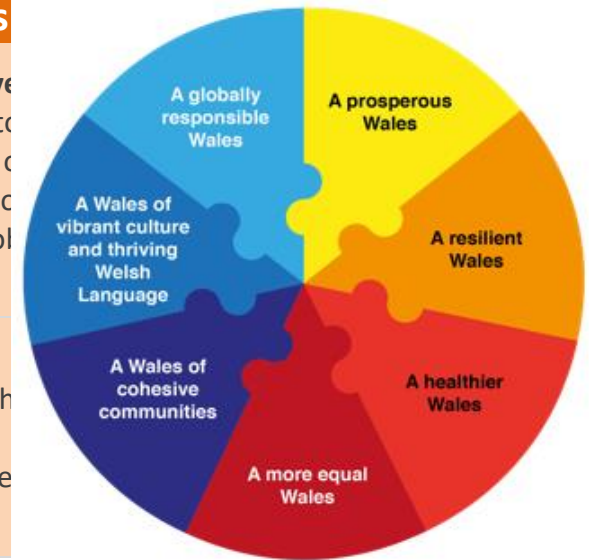
The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs

Prevention

Acting to prevent problems or getting worse, meeting or

Involvement

The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that they reflect the diversity of the area being served



Measures / Milestones	Previous (Year)	Target	Current	Comments	RAG
<i>Section Completed Quarterly</i>					
<i>Standard Measures</i>					
Average days lost to sickness absence per FTE employee					Green
Percentage of employees who leave the department					Green
Percentage of staff that received a performance review					Green
Percentage of staff who are trained to the appropriate safeguarding level					Green
Forecast overspend or underspend each quarter					Green
Number of complaints received					Green
Number of compliments received					Green
<i>Service area-specific measures</i>					
Refurbishment of the theatre auditorium, bar, and toilets alongside the installation of a new heating cooling system and wire tension grid.				All planned work completed and building open to the public.	Green
Completion of the new Box office area.				New fittings and furniture and screens in window.	Green
Completion of the inhouse improvements to the backstage areas.				Redecorating and refreshing of dressing room and backstage door areas by in -house team.	Green
Completion of "Operating handbook"				Document issued.	Green
Completion of review of staffing levels.				Report containing scenarios and numbers completed.	Green
Completion of our service "offer" document.				Hire packs and online brochure and booking system live and in place.	Green
Completion of our sales and marketing plan.				Marketing plan for 21-24 completed.	Green
Completion of 5yr Business Plan.				Detailed Business plan for 21-24 issued.	Green
Annual retained income target.				Targets to be set post Covid and refurbishment.	Red

Annual attendance.					Red
Annual events target.					Red

Risk	Level (Pre Mitigation)			Mitigating Action Update	Level (Post Mitigation)	
	Likelihood	Impact	Level		Likelihood	Impact
Section Completed Quarterly						
Public funding for non-saturary services face significant pressure.	Almost Certain	Major	High	Focus on service meeting funding criteria and priorities. Identify wider funding base. Increase earned income and efficiencies.	Possible	Mod
Available financial resources don't allow us to deliver the vision that will allow us to become more sustainable and cost effective in	Almost Certain	Major	High	Identify funding that supports investment. Careful management of budgets.	Possible	Mod

Major	Low	Medium	High	High
Substantial	Low	Medium	Medium	High
Moderate	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
Minor	Low	Low	Low	Low
	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain

Likelihood



the medium term.							
The refurbishment work has faced significant challenges and delays and this causes concerns and friction with the wider public.	Likely	Substantial	Medium	Secure clear timetable and communicate clearly to manage expectations. Communicate and promote the benefits.	Possible	Moderate	Low
The current human resources are based on a historical model and struggles to support the expected level of activities without significant additional overtime.	Almost Certain	Major	High	Identify actual and specific need based on data and relate resource costs to events. Identify and implement solutions.	Unlikely	Minor	Low
This could mean available staff and volunteers too insufficient to deliver service .	Likely	Major	High	Based on need identify necessary, staff, volunteer and agency numbers ensure human resources in place	Unlikely	Minor	Low



				along with systems to manage them.			
Activities and operations of other services in the building impact on the successful delivery of the theatre's service and vice versa.	Likely	Substantial	Medium	Ensure close liaison and communications between services under same roof. Use Yes Plan system to issue precise schedule and details around activities.	Possible	Moderate	Low
Audience and public attendance habits are unknown post Covid-19.	Possible	Moderate	Low	Monitor sector trends through professional networks. Monitor impact of promotions and reach of audience against historical data	Unlikely	Minor	Low
Restistance to changes to hire arrangements – challenge of setting sustainable charges that are affordable to the theatre and the hirers/users	Possible	Substantial	Medium	Create a clear and justifiable offer with comprehensive Terms and conditions and work with users to precisely communicate and justify the T&C's.	Possible	Moderate	Low

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SUBJECT: REGENERATION PROJECTS AND PLACEMAKING GRANT SUBMISSION

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 15th September 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Welsh Government Transforming Towns programme and associated funding opportunities. The report also sets out the proposed prioritisation of projects that can be delivered in this financial year in order to secure the funding, and the operational programme management arrangements that will be implemented to monitor progress.
- 1.2 To consider interim arrangements for the temporary trial re-opening towns measures, while long-term options are designed up and consulted upon.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To agree to the prioritisation of regeneration activity throughout the County and endorse the proposed Placemaking Grant submission for 2021/22 of £791,429 made under the Welsh Government Transforming Towns funding, and endorse the indicative programme for 2022/23, noting that the projects and funding balance may change due to prioritisation and deliverability.
- 2.2 To note the operational programme management arrangements that will be implemented for regeneration that will monitor and oversee the projects within the programme.
- 2.3 To agree that the temporary trial re-opening towns measures listed in paragraph 3.11 remain in place for up to 18 months while long-term options are designed up and consulted upon (albeit that the trial measures will continue to be adjusted in response to Member and stakeholder feedback). To continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make any adjustments to the temporary trial measures deemed necessary, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s), in response to stakeholder feedback.

3. KEY ISSUES:

Placemaking Grant

- 3.1 The Council has secured an equal one-tenth share of a Welsh Government Transforming Towns 'Placemaking' grant awarded to the Cardiff Capital Region and administered by RCT Council. Monmouthshire's share for 2021/22 is £554,000 which together with the required match funding from MCC of £237,429, provides a total fund of £791,429.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 sets out the grant categories and criteria that have been set by Welsh Government.

- 3.3 Appendix 2 sets out the proposed allocation of grant funding for 2021/22 and an indicative funding allocation for 2022/23. The proposed grant submission is informed by ideas arising from the reopening towns work and suggestions from Elected Members, Town Councillors and business representatives provided during the review of the re-opening towns meetings. Although there is currently no guarantee that funding will be available in 2022/23, the Welsh Government's commitment to placemaking and town centre regeneration make it highly likely that such a funding stream will continue. The two-year approach set out in this report enables officers to establish a forward work programme as well as give the potential to bid for additional in-year money should it become available.
- 3.4 The proposals have been sifted by compatibility with the grant criteria, deliverability (the 2021/22 projects must be concluded in this financial year) and impact/outcomes. Due to these criteria, not all towns will benefit equally, with some towns benefitting only from the 'all towns' funds. Villages and local centres are not eligible for this grant funding. Magor is currently not defined as a town but it would be able to benefit from the 'all towns' funds should it become a town as a result of the Boundary Commission proposals (there may also be funding available under the GI category).
- 3.5 The project list is subject to change as certainty of deliverability evolves.

Transforming Towns Revenue Funding

- 3.6 In addition to the above funding proposals, in 2021/22 WG has made available revenue funding through their Transforming Towns programme with £75k nominally allocated to each local authority, with an element of match funding expected. Funding is available for:
- Master plans or placemaking plans;
 - Green infrastructure audits;
 - Project feasibility and specialist consultancy; and
 - Consultancy work associated with the planning and reconfiguration of town centres as a result of Covid-19.
- As with the Transforming Towns Placemaking grant, the revenue funding has a town-centre focus.
- 3.7 To this end, MCC has bid for funding to commission a masterplan for Chepstow. This has been proposed for a number of reasons. The masterplan would pull together the various ongoing plans that impact on Chepstow town centre (e.g. the Transport Study, Town Council Place Plan and tourism via the Wye Valley Villages project) offering the necessary overarching strategic vision, co-ordination and governance. It would be the mechanism for consultation on the long-term future of the High Street and would have a focus on support to businesses and destination marketing including Chepstow as a destination 'arts' town. These cumulative proposals seek to enhance the long-term vitality and viability of the town. Should the bid be successful, we would seek to work with Chepstow County Councillors and Town Council in the preparation of the brief.
- 3.8 Should additional WG revenue funding be made available in the very near future, MCC would seek to commission a masterplan for Monmouth. However, the money is to be spent in 2021/22 so timescales are tight. The WG expectation for future capital funding is that it forms part of a town-based strategy or masterplan, hence the focus on securing

funding for masterplans via this revenue grant opportunity. Of the three towns without a current masterplan or strategy, Chepstow and Monmouth are considered to be in greatest need. Future funding will be sought for Abergavenny.

Transforming Towns Business Fund

- 3.9 The following bids have been submitted under the Transforming Towns Business Fund. The proposals were prepared in conjunction with business groups and Town Councils insofar as this was possible during a very tight bidding period during August:
- Shop Local – Countdown to Christmas - MCC led project £18,000
 - Virtual High Street pilot and digital skills training package - MCC led project £55,000
 - Town Council led projects £15,000
 - Croeso – Y Fenni Business Community led project £2,550

Longer term regeneration priorities

- 3.10 The 2021/22 Placemaking Grant bid submission and 2022/23 proposal are a reflection of known deliverable projects that meet the grant criteria. They have been shaped by stakeholder engagement via the re-opening towns review meetings held in June 2021, Business Resilience Forum meetings and the multidisciplinary officer working group. The grant criteria mean the funding cannot simply be distributed evenly amongst each of our towns, nor would doing so result in meaningful outcomes. The recent review of the re-opening towns pandemic response trials identified a clear, shared ambition for regeneration in each of our towns, subject to further engagement and consultation on any proposed permanent changes. Delivering on this ambition will require the coordination, sequencing and prioritisation of projects, which will be the subject of a future Cabinet report to shape the Council's regeneration strategy going forwards.
- 3.11 One clear limitation at present is the absence of an overarching vision or strategy for Chepstow, Monmouth and Abergavenny, which would inform future priorities and grant submissions. The revenue grant bid for Chepstow, and provisional bid for Monmouth, go some way to help address this. A summary of the feedback received for each town from the stakeholder sessions is given below:

Abergavenny

Although involving difficult decisions at the time, it was universally agreed that the pedestrianisation of much of Abergavenny's town centre in recent years has been a success. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the part-time pedestrianisation of Cross Street; the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space in Cross Street, Frogmore Street and St John's Square; the provision of a contraflow cycle lane on Lion Street; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel. A number of smaller scale interventions have been suggested for coming years relating to the trial measures, but Abergavenny would benefit from an overarching strategy and vision for the town to coordinate various projects and future potential.

Caldicot

The recent Cabinet decision to support the Levelling Up Fund submission for the Newport East constituency for Caldicot builds upon the previous Cabinet decision for Caldicot to be

the focus for Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) grant funding, which itself builds on the 2014 Town Vision and 2016 Strategy and Action Plan and recent Active Travel investment. These decisions provide a clear and relevant framework to inform future work in Caldicot. Caldicot town centre is already pedestrianised so the main temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel.

Chepstow

As stated in para 3.7 of this report, a £75k bid has been submitted seeking Welsh Government revenue funding for an overarching strategy to coordinate and inform future work and priorities, coordinating with the Town Council's emerging Place Plan. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the part-time closure of High Street to vehicular traffic other than blue badge holders accessing the disabled person parking bays on Bank Street; changes to the crossing areas on Moor Street/Welsh Street and at Beaufort Square; the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel. In response to stakeholder feedback, a zebra crossing is to be provided at Beaufort Square, and additional disabled person parking provided on Upper Nelson Street to ensure access for all during festivals and events.

Monmouth

Active Travel funding has been secured for this financial year (2021/22) to consider options for permanent changes to Monnow Street to create a more people-friendly environment that supports and promotes active travel. As with Chepstow, an overarching strategy is needed to draw together and coordinate various projects and proposals and to shape the future regeneration priorities. Should additional WG revenue grant become available early enough this financial year, a bid will be submitted for this work. Earlier this year, Cabinet approved the Levelling Up Fund submission for the Monmouthshire constituency, which focuses on regenerating Monmouth. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the widened pavements to Monnow Street and the associated provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space in Monnow Street and Agincourt Square; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel.

Usk

Usk benefits from a masterplan commissioned jointly by Monmouthshire County Council, Usk Town Council and Llanbadoc Community Council. It is proposed that this is adopted by MCC to inform and guide future decision-making, and this will be subject to a separate Member report. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space around the town centre. The temporary traffic lights on Bridge Street were removed in May 2021.

Interim Arrangements

- 3.12 The current temporary trial re-opening towns measures are underpinned by emergency Traffic Orders, which expire after 18 months (January 2022). The associated street café licences were issued for a temporary period until September 2021, and so a decision is

needed on whether or not to review each licence, which in turn requires certainty about the extension of the trial of the temporary measures. It is recommended to Cabinet that the trial measures outlined in paragraph 3.11 be allowed to remain in place for up to a further 18 months, providing an interim period during which permanent measures are considered, designed and consulted upon. An Experimental Traffic Order can allow the trial measures to remain in place for up to another 18 months. This would allow the trial measures to continue to be tested, with adjustments made as necessary in response to Member and community feedback, which can be provided via our website, contact centre or email to the Regeneration Officer lead for the town in question (see para 3.16 below). Cabinet approval is sought to continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s). In some instances, such as Chepstow, Experimental Orders could allow different trial measures to be considered, utilising feedback from the re-opening towns review meeting and discussions with other stakeholders including a newly forming disability action group.

- 3.13 Although Magor is currently out of scope for the Placemaking grant, due to it not being a town at present, if Cabinet approves the use of Experimental Traffic Orders to retain the temporary measures for up to another 18 months, it is proposed that this applies to Magor too. The temporary trial measures in question comprise the partial closure of Magor Square to vehicular traffic including some on-street parking bays, the provision of space for outdoor trading, planters, and active travel improvements. Further community consultation is proposed to identify which, if any, of these changes might become permanent.
- 3.14 In terms of the other villages, the only trial measures for potential retention in Raglan and Tintern are the 20mph speed limits. Subject to consultation with the Ward Member and Community Council, it is proposed that consultation is undertaken to make these speed limit changes permanent.

Programme Management Arrangements

- 3.15 An increasing level of project work due to the increasing array of grants available requires effective programme and project management arrangements for the newly formed Regeneration team. This operational project management will oversee 'live' projects within the Enterprise directorate and will develop a pipeline of 'shovel ready' projects to maximise future grant opportunities.
- 3.16 The programme management arrangements will be led by the Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding and include relevant officers who undertake the role of project managers or project sponsors.

Multidisciplinary Officer Meeting

- 3.17 Now that the town centre work is moving from covid response to future-looking regeneration, it is proposed to replace the monthly re-opening town meetings with a quarterly multidisciplinary officer meeting focused on future regeneration opportunities. This will be a forum to bring together colleagues from various services to ensure everyone is aware of current workstreams and project progress, and to share ideas for the future pipeline of projects, knowledge of local issues and awareness of new funding opportunities.

Place-based Project Management

- 3.18 Following the appointment of two project managers into the Regeneration team, they will be allocated across the County as town regeneration leads as follows:

Abergavenny	Daniel Fordham
Caldicot	Daniel Fordham
Chepstow	Jane Lee
Magor	Jane Lee
Monmouth	Daniel Fordham
Usk	Jane Lee
Wye Valley Villages	Jane Lee

This will be reviewed as necessary, for example if the LUF bids are successful. Roger Hoggins continues to support these workstreams as Head of Strategic Projects.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 A Wellbeing of Future Generations Equalities Impact Appraisal has been completed in relation to the interim retention of the trial re-opening towns measures and is attached at Appendix 3. A Wellbeing of Future Generations Equalities Impact Appraisal has been completed in relation to the proposed grant programme and is attached at Appendix 4. There no corporate parenting of safeguarding concerns, nor issues in relation to our economic impact duty. Amendments, where needed, provide mitigation in relation to impacts on protected characteristics, specifically disability in relation to Chepstow in particular.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 Table One below therefore provides an options appraisal of the proposal:

Options	Benefits	Risks	Comments/Mitigation
Do Nothing	No additional demand on colleague time and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated funding is lost and projects not implemented 	The grant funding will help support our town centres.
Proceed with the submission of the placemaking grant as set out in Appendix 2.	Projects are delivered, town centre vitality and viability are supported, funding is not lost,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some towns may feel 'unloved' and projects not progressed in all towns 	The rationale behind the submission is sound, and future funding is expected to be available.
Put Experimental Traffic Orders in place as an interim measure to allow the trial measures to be thoroughly tested for up to 18 months while permanent solutions are identified, designed and consulted on. To continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in	<p>Temporary trial measures remain in place to support our town centres and to thoroughly test them.</p> <p>Businesses who have invested in outdoor trading spaces can continue to benefit, subject to an appropriate licence being in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trial measures might be perceived as having been made permanent without engagement The trial measures may become tired or worn 	<p>Clear communication will clarify that the measures remain trials during the interim period.</p> <p>The trial measures will continue to be adjusted as needed in response to Member and community feedback and can be removed if insurmountable problems arise.</p>

consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s).			
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6. REASONS:

- 6.1 The proposed grant submission is informed by ideas arising from the re-opening towns work and suggestions from Elected Members, Town Councillors and business representatives provided during the review of the re-opening towns meetings, as well as feedback from the Business Resilience Forum and the officer working group.
- 6.2 Project work and funding opportunities are increasing. We need to ensure we can maximise the benefit of this funding to Monmouthshire's communities by successfully bidding and delivering on projects. The newly established physical regeneration team gives us an opportunity to review how we best do this, with new project management arrangements to ensure timely and effective project delivery and to develop a pipeline of 'shovel ready' projects to maximise future grant opportunities.
- 6.3 The Experimental Traffic Orders will allow the trial measures to continue to be tested, with adjustments as necessary, supporting businesses and communities while permanent changes are considered, designed and consulted upon. Cabinet is invited to continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s).

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 The match funding contribution for the Transforming Towns Placemaking grant has been allocated within the capital programme. This is approximately £238,000 per annum based on a 30% contribution.
- 7.2 Wherever possible and reasonable we will include regeneration and/or highway officer time for project management in future grant applications, to help financially support the teams' resource needs.
- 7.3 The Experimental Traffic Orders will be undertaken using existing staff resource and budget.

8. CONSULTEES:

Enterprise DMT

SLT

Economy and Development Select: At its meeting on 26th July 2021, the Economy and Development Select Committee considered a report reviewing the re-opening towns work and setting out the transition to future long-term regeneration proposals for each of our towns. The Committee noted that Members will be engaged on a town-by-town basis to help shape emerging proposals and to help inform and engage the local community. The Economy and Development Select Committee asked that regeneration projects relating to high streets periodically return to that forum for scrutiny. At its meeting on 7th September 2021, the Economy and Development Select Committee will consider the proposals set out in this report. Any feedback will be verbally reported to Cabinet.

Re-opening Towns Officer Working Group: supports the proposed bid, interim arrangements and project management arrangements.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

10. AUTHOR:

Mark Hand (Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding)

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07773 478579

Appendix 1: WG Placemaking Grant 2021-22 criteria

Appendix 2: Proposed WG Placemaking Grant 2021-22 submission and 2022/23 programme for Monmouthshire

Appendix 3: Wellbeing of Future Generations Assessment for interim retention of trial measures

Appendix 4: Wellbeing of Future Generations Assessment for the regen grant programmes

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

Place Making Intervention	Scheme Detail	Eligible Applicant	Maximum Allocation of grant
Residential Units in Town Centres	<p>To convert vacant floor-space on upper floors into new residential accommodation. The minimum requirement from each scheme is 1 x 1 bedroom self-contained flat.</p> <p>Schemes are expected to be a mix of one and two bedroom units with ratio determined by layout of building and planning consent.</p> <p>Schemes should comply to the minimum floor space as recommended in the most up to date Welsh Housing Quality Standards, currently this is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 46m² per one bedroom flat 2. 59m² per two bedroom flat <p>Student accommodation, bedsits and studios are not eligible for grant funding</p> <p>Where acceptable to Local Planning Authorities potential conversion of ground floor, as well as upper floors may be considered for areas not considered to be core retail, where no alternative commercial use can be found.</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of properties within town centres who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or • Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	Up to £250,000 per property
Commercial Property Improvement Grants	<p>The Property Improvement Grant is available to commercial building occupiers and owners within town centres. Its purpose is to enhance building frontages together with the upgrade of vacant commercial floor space to bring it back into beneficial business use.</p> <p>New/ upgraded floor space must be for business use, with each scheme determined on its individual</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or • Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	Up to £250,000 per property

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<p>merits at the discretion of local officers, and then approved by local and regional project boards. In particular offices, independent leisure, retail, food and drink uses will be considered. Mixed-use schemes will also be considered, but private student lets, will not be considered.</p> <p>Offices or commercial premises above retail units will also be considered for support.</p> <p>WORKS</p> <p>External External works to the building can include work deemed necessary for the structural integrity of the property. Items might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shopfronts; • Signage; • Windows and doors; • External lighting; • Roofs and chimneys; • Rainwater goods (guttering and down pipes); • Rendering, stone cleaning and repairs, re-pointing; and • Structural works. <p>Internal Internal works to the building can include all work, visible or structural, necessary to complete the project to Building Regulations. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows and doors; • Improved accessibility; • Walls, ceilings, lighting; 		
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Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency measures when included as part of the overall scheme; • Utilities and services, including heating; • Welfare facilities (e.g. essential washroom and cleansing facilities only); and • Structural work <p>New Build New build commercial floor-space could be eligible, where a local need for this has been identified.</p>		
Green Infrastructure	<p>The provision of Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity projects in town centres. Specifically but not exclusively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Walls • Green Roofs • Rain Gardens • Greening. • Pocket Parks <p>Other Green Infrastructure or general greening measures are eligible subject to approval of Welsh Government. Any intervention needs to be strategic and underpinned by a Town Centre Green Infrastructure Audit.</p> <p>This support will not contribute to ongoing maintenance costs in future financial years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Own the freehold, or ○ Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	Up to £250,000 per project
Public Realm	The provision of small scale public realm enhancements where they are aligned with a natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities. • Business Improvement Districts BIDs 	Up to £250,000 per scheme.

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<p>clustering of regeneration activity in town centres. Where there is demonstrable social and economic impact. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal or dropping of curbs for access and egress; • The widening of pavement areas so as to provide outdoor seating and amenity areas; • Permanent planters and screening provision; • Enhancing features to a key project within the town or city centre; <p>Other measures may be eligible for support subject to approval of Welsh Government.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Community Councils 	
Strategic Acquisition	<p>Acquisitions within town and city centres. This support should not be used to acquire properties that are subject to, or could benefit from planning enforcement measures. Specifically, this support could be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire properties in order to complete land assembly for larger strategic proposals; • Acquire properties for demolition in order to deliver improved connectivity and permeability in centres; • The acquisition of properties in order to provide greenspace, play facilities or enhanced public realm. • Demolition costs are eligible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per acquisition.
Town Centre Markets	<p>The delivery of the 'Every Town a Market Town' philosophy. The development and enabling of local markets for the provision of produce, craft, food and value added products. This capital only funding will deliver:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of permanent electricity supplies to enable market trading; The acquisition of trading stalls, stands and platforms. <p>Works must conform and be aligned with the Welsh Government best practice guide for the establishment of local markets. This work should be aligned with any post Covid – 19 Town Centre works and planning.</p>		
Town Centre Meanwhile Uses	The establishment of temporary meanwhile or pop – up uses in currently vacant premises in town centres. The support should be wholly aligned with the Welsh Government Meanwhile Uses Best Practice Guide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts BIDs Town and Community Councils Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Town Centre External Trading support.	The provision of outdoor seating, planters, coverings, servery areas and building canopies. This support is in line with the Covid – 19 response grant 2020/21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts Town Centre Businesses BIDs Town and Community Councils 	
Shop Frontage Enveloping Schemes	External shop frontage enhancements whereby no internal modification or redevelopment is undertaken. Adjacent or closely situated properties need to be targeted in a given town so as to achieve a critical mass and greater impact. It is suggested that a minimum of 6 properties should sign up to this support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Own the freehold, or Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. For projects that request less than £50k in grant a legal charge is not required so a lease with five years remaining at the final grant payment date is acceptable. 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Digital Towns	The furthering of the 'digital towns' agenda through the provision of capital items to support Wi-Fi analytics and Lora Wan networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts BIDs Town and Community Councils. 	Up to £250,000 per town centre.

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

Active Travel	Provisions supporting or facilitating active travel routes in town centres where this cannot be funded through other means. Specifically the provision of bicycle storage, lockers and retrofit of show and hygiene facilities in commercial premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps • Private sector partners 	Up to £250,000 per application.
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Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant allocation	70%	£554,000
MCC match funding (minimum requirement)	30%	£242,000
TOTAL	100%	£796,000

2021/22 Proposed indicative submission

Project	Placemaking Grant project category	Location	Priority	Estimated cost	Deliverability	Notes
43 Frogmore St - upper floor conversion to shared workspace	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Abergavenny	1	£63,000		Cost based on 70% of total project cost. Space to be occupied/managed by Gwagle, who operate existing co-working space on Nevill Street.
Cross Street interventions leading to pedestrianisation - quick win projects	Public Realm	Abergavenny	1	£25,000		Cycle-friendly gates, signage at junction with Monk Street. Costs TBC.
Borough Theatre Refurbishment	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Abergavenny	1	£250,000		Match funding. Dependent on timely award of Active Travel funding
Caldicot Goes Pop!	Town Centre Meanwhile Uses	Caldicot	1	£11,000		Upgrades to existing Town Team pop-up unit
Caldicot shop front improvements - continuation of 20/21 grants scheme	Shop Front Enveloping Schemes	Caldicot	1	£150,000		To include existing commitments and new projects. Funding allocation could be increased if other projects underspend.
Caldicot Town Team market gazebos	Town Centre Markets	Caldicot	1	£7,000		To support expansion of Town Team-managed market
Chepstow town centre public realm	Public Realm	Chepstow	1	£10,000		Funding for green roof shelter for trade waste bins and creation of seating area in Chepstow town centre.
Chepstow Green Wall	Green Infrastructure	Chepstow	1	£25,000		Issues around maintenance requirements which are apparently intensive/costly
Various projects generated through the GI Action Plan	Green Infrastructure	Abergavenny, Chepstow, Monmouth	1	£65,000		Cost is for delivery of GI Action Plan projects in town centres. Other deliverable projects available outside town centres. £80k if Magor Undy included

Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Town centre outdoor adaptation grants - continuation of 20/21 grants scheme	Town Centre External Trading Support	All towns	1	£130,000		To include existing commitments and new projects. Funding allocation could be increased if other projects underspend.
Town centre wifi and Smart Town Data	Digital Towns	All towns	1	£60,000		To be delivered by Rural/Digital Programmes Team
TOTAL				£796,000	The indicative figures show an overspend of £4571	

Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Assumed Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant allocation	70%	£556,500
MCC match funding (minimum requirement)	30%	£238,500
TOTAL	100%	£795,000

2022/23 Indicative proposal

Project	Placemaking Grant project category	Location	Priority	Estimated cost	Deliverability	Notes
Church Road, Caldicot Phase 2	Public Realm	Caldicot	2	£250,000		
Hanbury House - improvement to shopfront and lettable areas	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Chepstow	2	£80,000		Costs TBC
Welsh Street car park - improve pedestrian environment at entrance	Public Realm	Chepstow	2	£110,000		Potential to improve disabled access to High Street.
20 Monnow Street	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Monmouth	2	£75,000		Improvements/repairs pending redevelopment/refurbishment
Shopfront enveloping schemes	Shopfront enveloping	Abergavenny and Monmouth	2	£280,000		Locations tbc but likely to be Lower Cross Street in Abergavenny and Monnow Street and Church Street in Monmouth
TOTAL				£795,000		



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sir fynwy

Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

<p>Name of the Officer Mark Hand</p> <p>Phone no: 07773 478579 E-mail: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>Re-opening Monmouthshire's High Streets – extension of the temporary trial measures for up to an additional 18 months</p> <p>In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, various temporary trial measures were introduced to our High Streets to enable people to safely return to support local businesses, creating more people-friendly environments and encouraging active travel. These measures were introduced via emergency Traffic Orders which expire after 18 months. It is therefore proposed to retain the temporary trial measures that are still in place for up to an additional 18 months using an Experimental Traffic Order. During this period, permanent changes can be designed up, consulted upon and, where applicable, funding sought.</p> <p>This Assessment considers the equality and wellbeing and socio-economic implications of extending the temporary trial measures for up to an extra 18 months. During that period, alterations and changes can be made to the trial measures in response to stakeholder feedback.</p>
<p>Name of Service area: Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding</p>	<p>Date 1st September 2021</p>

1. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	<p>The temporary trial schemes were been developed through collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councillors and business representaives on the Business Resillience Forum and in June 2021 were subject to a series of town-based review meetings.</p> <p>The original aim of the proposals was to ensure our High Streets are safe for shoppers to return and support local businesses during the pandemic. Pedestrian routes were widened where possible at pinch points to allow social distancing and queuing. Where kerblines were in the middle of widened footways, they were marked with re paint to highlight the level change. High Streets have since been enhanced with planters, parklets and outdoor trading spaces.</p> <p>As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic we are now considering what long-term changes should be made to support the regeneration and repurposing of our high streets.</p>	<p>Some on-street parking has been lost, either all the time such as in Monnow Street, Monmouth, or during part-time street closures such as in parts of Cross Street, Abergavenny, to pedestrianise areas or to provide parklets or seating areas for businesses to provide outdoor trading.</p>	<p>Live feedback will continue to be be invited so that temporary trial schemes can be tweaked, changed or removed as appropriate.</p> <p>We have mitigated the loss of parking bays by ensuring that accessible and convenient parking close to High Streets remains available in alternative locations.</p> <p>Most public toilets are managed by the Town or Community Council or Cadw. Where possible, they remain open for use with appropriate hygiene adaptations.</p> <p>Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with limited mobility to rest and people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.</p> <p>Individuals continue to be responsible for ensuring good personal hygiene and maintaining social distancing when legislation requires.</p>

<p>Disability</p>	<p>The temporary trial schemes were been developed through collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councillors and business representaives on the Business Resillience Forum and in June 2021 were subject to a series of town-based review meetings.</p> <p>The original aim of the proposals was to ensure our High Streets are safe for shoppers to return and support local businesses during the pandemic. The proposals have allowed communities to safely access local shops, which has benefited those who are without internet access/capability to shop, or who are lonely. Pedestrian routes were widened where possible at pinch points to allow social distancing and queuing. Where kerblines were in the middle of widened footways, they were marked with re paint to highlight the level change to thise with visual impairments. High Streets have since been enhanced with planters, parklets and outdoor trading spaces. Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with limited mobility to rest and people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.</p> <p>As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic we are now considering what</p>	<p>Guide dogs are not trained to maintain social distancing and the widened footpaths into carriageways will not be understood by guide dogs who are trained to respond to kerblines.</p> <p>Some on-street parking has been lost, either all the time such as in Monnow Street, Monmouth, or during part-time street closures such as in parts of Cross Street, Abergavenny, to pedestrianise areas or to provide parklets or seating areas for businesses to provide outdoor trading.</p> <p>Planters, parklets and outdoor trading areas pose potential obstacles to those with visial impairments or mobility difficulties. Care has therefore been taken with the siting of these areas.</p>	<p>Live feedback continues to be invited so that schemes can be tweaked, changed or removed as appropriate.</p> <p>Most public toilets are managed by the Town or Community Council or Cadw. Where possible, they remain open for use with appropriate hygiene adaptations.</p> <p>Individuals will be responsible for ensuring good personal hygiene and maintaining social distancing.</p> <p>A net increase in disabled person parking bays is provided, with as many existing bays as possible retained. Audits have been undertaken taking into consideration potential increased distances and, in Chepstow, the difficult topography. This has resulted in the Bank Street spaces remaining available for use.</p> <p>In Abergavenny, access to 8 disabled parking bays at Cross Street is restricted by the barrier between 10am and 4pm Monday to Saturday, and many of these bays have been used to provide parklets or outdoor trading spaces for businesses or cycle parking. At</p>
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	<p>long-term changes should be made to support the regeneration and repurposing of our high streets. Some people with disabilities may continue to have increase vulnerability to coronavirus and/or be unable to be vaccinated, making social distancing important still.</p>		<p>present, if accessed before 10am, blue badge holders can park in the remaining bays all day and exit via Market Street. An additional 17 disabled parking bays have been provided at Tiverton Place. The disabled bays at the end of Frogmore Street remain available for use.</p> <p>In Chepstow, 10 additional disabled person bays have been provided in Welsh Street car park. The disabled person bays on Bank Street remain available for use by allowing blue badge holders access into the road closure area although alternative options are being considered in response to feedback from stakeholders including people with disabilities. A meeting was held with a newly forming disability action group to view and discuss concerns about obstructions and accessibility, and as a result signs and planters were relocated, amendments are proposed to disabled parking provision at the Castle Dell car park and additional spaces on Upper Nelson Street, and the 1 hour limit on Bank Street is to be changed to 3</p>
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Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
			<p>hours. Dialogue with this group will be ongoing.</p> <p>In Monmouth, 12 additional disabled person spaces have been provided at Cornwall House car park. All but one disabled bay has been retained on Monnow Street and Blestium Street as part of the current temporary trial layout. Signing and lining has now been completed to allow for enforcement, which is being proactively targeted to ensure the bays are not abused and remain available for those who need them.</p> <p>The Council's Equalities Officer now sits on the Events Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) to help ensure access issues are fully considered when events are planned.</p>
Gender reassignment	No impact		
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact		

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Pregnancy or maternity	<p>The scheme widens the pedestrian areas which will assist parents using prams/pushchairs or pregnant people wishing to ensure social distancing.</p> <p>Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people to rest and feed children.</p>	Planters, parklets and outdoor trading areas pose potential obstacles to those with pushchairs or prams. Care has therefore been taken with the siting of these areas.	<p>Most public toilets are managed by the Town or Community Council or Cadw. Where possible, they remain open for use with appropriate hygiene adaptations.</p> <p>Individuals remain responsible for ensuring good personal hygiene and maintaining distancing.</p>
Race	No impact		
Religion or Belief	No impact		
Sex	No impact		
Sexual Orientation	No impact		
Welsh Language	Signage is proportionate to avoid physical and visual clutter. Highway signs will be DfT approved and bilingual.		

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions. This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.


	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	<p>The Social Justice strategy focuses on three main areas: tackling loneliness and isolation; tackling poverty and promoting equitable economic prosperity; and giving children the best start in life.</p> <p>People on low incomes or in poverty may not have internet access or be able to make non-cash payments. Supporting our High Streets will enable them to safely access a range of shops and services.</p> <p>Retail and hospitality businesses provide a significant number of valued job opportunities. Supporting people to shop locally and buy goods and services locally supports the retention of those jobs.</p>	None	Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.




3. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	The trial changes seek to create a safe and attractive environment for shoppers and visitors to support local businesses. Creating such an environment is widely used to support retail, services, hospitality outlets which in turn attracts businesses and subsequent employment whilst adding to the general appearance of prosperity and vitality in a town centre.	A marketing campaign has been run alongside the physical works. Live feedback continues to be sought on the trial changes, allowing for tweaks, changes, additions and removal as appropriate.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	The trial changes seek to create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and will hopefully encourage active travel instead of car use. The planters provide additional trees and flowers for pollinators.	WG funding bid has been secured for wider active travel improvements and for regeneration enhancements and grants to support local businesses.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The trial changes seek to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists as well as support businesses. Active travel is being promoted and supported by government as a way to engender a healthier lifestyle.	The proposals are trials and live feedback is welcomed to enable schemes to be tweaked, added to, changed or removed as appropriate. If measures are successful consideration can be given to making them permanent, following consultation.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	To be successful our High Streets need to be safe and attractive for residents and visitors. To achieve this there must be space to facilitate social distancing and the potential for licenced outdoor seating to cafés, bars and restaurants to appeal to a wide section of society with all generations being comfortable in the environment.	
A globally responsible Wales	The trial changes seek to support the economic health of our High Streets. Measures to ensure	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	pedestrian safety and to encourage active travel will encourage people to adopt a more healthy lifestyle through walking and cycling.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Monmouthshire is a county of historic market towns blessed with high quality independent traders and tourism attractions. As such, it is important that our towns and villages are safe and attractive to visitors and tourism, being places where people are safe and confident visiting and spend some time.	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Monmouthshire has a greater proliferation of small businesses than any other county in Wales. Creating an environment to support those seeking to invest or expand in retail thereby adding to the prosperity of our towns benefit from this project	Effective dialogue has been started with a newly forming disability action group in Chepstow, which is helping us ensure decisions fully consider the needs of those with disabilities.

4. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	The trial measures have enabled visitors and shoppers to safely socially distance during the pandemic. The focus is now on longer term High Street regeneration and vitality and creating more people-friendly places. Retaining the temporary trial measures for the extended period will enable them to be thoroughly tested and for potential permanent changes to be designed up and consulted on.	Live feedback will continue to be sought to enable measures to be tweaked, added to, changed or scrapped as applicable.

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>The proposals have been drafted in collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and business representatives sitting on the Business Resilience Forum.</p>	<p>A series of review meeting have been held to discuss how the measures are working and provide an update on feedback received and changes made in the interim.</p>
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>The proposals have been drafted in collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and business representatives sitting on the Business Resilience Forum. A community survey received nearly 1500 responses which have helped shape the measures proposed. A further survey helped inform active travel proposals to support town centres. Review meetings were held in June 2021 with County Councillors, Town and Community Councillors and business representatives to reflect on what has worked, what hasn't, what lessons can be learnt going forwards, and which, if any, measures have potential to be considered as permanent changes, subject to further consultation.</p>	<p>Further feedback on successes and problems can be submitted via live feedback on the measures.</p>
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>The initial purpose of the proposals was to put physical measures in place to avoid health and/or economic problems occurring, i.e. communities are kept safe while businesses are supported. The focus is now on supporting our High Streets in a post-pandemic climate.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The proposals seek to balance the competing needs of shoppers, businesses, pedestrians, cyclists and drivers (given the rurality, topography and demographic of the county it is appreciated that car use will remain essential for some people).</p>	

5. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Social Justice, Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

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	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	<p>People experiencing poverty may not have access to internet shopping or non-cash payment, so ensuring high streets are safe to return to will assist their opportunities to access goods and services, as lockdown easing allows businesses to trade. Data suggests that there is a link between poverty and vulnerability to coronavirus, so a safe environment that enables social distancing is particularly important. Many people rely on employment in retail and hospitality businesses and the success of our town centres is therefore essential to their financial stability and wellbeing.</p>		
Safeguarding	Not applicable		

Corporate Parenting	Not applicable		
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6. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

The proposals have been drafted in collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and business representatives sitting on the Business Resilience Forum. A community survey received nearly 1500 responses which have helped shape the measure. A further survey helped inform active travel proposals to support town centres. The measures have been adjusted over the last 13 months in response to feedback. Review meetings were held in June 2021 with County Councillors, Town and Community Councillors and business representatives to reflect on what has worked, what hasn't, what lessons can be learnt going forwards, and which, if any, measures have potential to be considered as permanent changes, subject to further consultation

7. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The aim of the temporary trial measures has been to support our High Streets and our local businesses through the pandemic. The trials have allowed brave decisions to be made to test different ideas and respond to feedback, and while the initial lack of community and wider business consultation has drawn some criticism, ongoing discussions and response to feedback has resulted in a set of trial measures that, at present, appear to be working well. The measures have sought to create people-friendly places that support local businesses and encourage walking and cycling. Outdoor trading, planters, parklets and banners have added to the vitality of our towns and anecdotal evidence suggests footfall has returned. The extension to the temporary trial measures will allow them to be fully tested and, where applicable, permanent changes to be designed, consulted upon and funding sought for delivery. Funding has been secured for footfall counter technology which will help monitor activity and success.

8. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Continue to review of measures via live feedback.	Ongoing	Regen Team

9. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Officer sign off of proposals, with agreement from Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure and Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Land Use Planning	18 th June 2020	Amendments to proposals made during previous ten days from meetings with businesses and Town/Community representatives.
2	Project update as measures are amended and street furniture installed	18 th March 2021	Review of parking provision and accessibility
3	Proposal to extend temporary trial measures for up to an additional 18 months	1 st September 2021	n/a



Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

<p>Name of the Officer Mark Hand</p> <p>Phone no: 07773 478579 E-mail: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>Placemaking grant proposed programme for 2021/22 and 2022/23</p> <p>To agree to the prioritisation of regeneration activity throughout the County and endorse the proposed Placemaking Grant submission for 2021/22 of £791,429 made under the Welsh Government Transforming Towns funding, and endorse the indicative programme for 2022/23, noting that the projects and funding balance may change due to prioritisation and deliverability. Also to note the bid submissions made for the Transforming Towns revenue grant and business fund. The purpose of the funding is to support and regenerate our town centres.</p>
<p>Name of Service area: Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding</p>	<p>Date 6th September 2021</p>

1. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	The grant proposals will allow communities to safely access local shops, which has benefited those who are without internet access/capability to shop, or who are lonely. High Streets can be enhanced with planters, parklets and outdoor trading spaces. Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with limited mobility to rest and people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.		Live feedback will continue to be invited so that temporary trial schemes can be tweaked, changed or removed as appropriate.
Disability	The grant proposals will allow communities to safely access local shops, which has benefited those who are without internet access/capability to shop, or who are lonely. High Streets can be enhanced with planters, parklets and outdoor trading spaces. Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with limited mobility to rest and people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.	Planters, parklets and outdoor trading areas pose potential obstacles to those with visual impairments or mobility difficulties. Care will therefore been taken with the siting of these areas.	Live feedback continues to be invited so that schemes can be tweaked, changed or removed as appropriate. Careful consideration will be given to the needs of people with disabilities before implementing any changes.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Gender reassignment	No impact		
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact		
Pregnancy or maternity	Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people to rest and feed children.	Planters, parklets and outdoor trading areas pose potential obstacles to those with pushchairs or prams. Care will therefore been taken with the siting of these areas.	
Race	No impact		
Religion or Belief	No impact		
Sex	No impact		
Sexual Orientation	No impact		
Welsh Language	Signage is proportionate to avoid physical and visual clutter. Highway signs will be DfT approved and bilingual.		The marketing campaign will be bilingual.

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions. This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.





	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	<p>The Social Justice strategy focuses on three main areas: tackling loneliness and isolation; tackling poverty and promoting equitable economic prosperity; and giving children the best start in life.</p> <p>People on low incomes or in poverty may not have internet access or be able to make non-cash payments. Supporting our High Streets will enable them to safely access a range of shops and services.</p> <p>Retail and hospitality businesses provide a significant number of valued job opportunities. Supporting people to shop locally and buy goods and services locally supports the retention of those jobs.</p>	None	Parklets and planters provide additional street seating allowing people with no outdoor space at home a safe outdoor space to meet family and friends when lockdown rules permit.


3. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	The grants provide opportunities to create a safe and attractive environment for shoppers and visitors to support local businesses. Creating such an environment is widely used to support retail, services, hospitality outlets which in turn attracts businesses and subsequent employment whilst adding to the general appearance of prosperity and vitality in a town centre. Providing the infrastructure to enable citizens to enable communities to thrive and support local businesses.	A marketing campaign is proposed to support businesses as part of the grant package.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	The grants support proposals to create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and will hopefully encourage active travel instead of car use. The planters provide additional trees and flowers for pollinators. Improvements to green infrastructure, pedestrianisation, and cycle ways will raise awareness of biodiversity and climate change issues and encourage positive participation.	WG funding has been secured for wider active travel improvements and for regeneration enhancements and grants to support local businesses.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The grants support opportunities to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists as well as support businesses. Active travel is being promoted and supported by government as a way to engender a healthier lifestyle.	Improved place-making and green infrastructure will provide the opportunity to increase physical activity and support physical and mental well-being and support Active Travel.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	To be successful our High Streets need to be safe and attractive for residents and visitors. To achieve this there must be space to facilitate social distancing and the potential for licenced outdoor seating to cafés, bars and restaurants to appeal to a wide section of society with all generations being	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	comfortable in the environment. The grants will help businesses adapt to the changing role of the High Street.	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Measures to support local businesses, ensure pedestrian safety and to encourage active travel will encourage people to adopt a more healthy lifestyle through walking and cycling, as well as ensuring amenities and services are successful and therefore remain accessible locally.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Monmouthshire is a county of historic market towns blessed with high quality independent traders and tourism attractions. As such, it is important that our towns and villages are safe and attractive to visitors and tourism, being places where people are safe and confident visiting and spend some time. Improved access and facilities can raise awareness of culture, heritage and the Welsh language and encourage positive participation.	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Monmouthshire has a greater proliferation of small businesses than any other county in Wales. Creating an environment to support those seeking to invest or expand in retail thereby adding to the prosperity of our towns benefit from this project. Improved access and facilities can enable citizens to fulfill their potential, whatever their background or circumstances.	Effective dialogue has been started with a newly forming disability action group in Chepstow, which is helping us ensure decisions fully consider the needs of those with disabilities. The Council's Equalities Officer now sits on ESAG, the events safety advisory group.

4. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>Improved access and facilities within town centres and green infrastructure short term will assist with medium- and longer-term priorities of health, wellbeing and carbon reduction.</p>	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>The proposals have been drafted in collaboration with County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and business representatives sitting on the Business Resilience Forum and by the take-up of previous grant funding opportunities and associated feedback..</p>	
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The proposals have been informed by ideas and feedback from County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and business representatives sitting on the Business Resilience Forum and by the take-up of previous grant funding opportunities and associated feedback.</p>	
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The proposals focus on supporting our High Streets in a post-pandemic climate. Measures being proposed will have wider health benefits longer term as more citizens will have access to improved facilities, green infrastructure, cycle ways, etc thus reducing the further deterioration in town centres, reducing car reliance, reducing carbon footprint and improving wellbeing.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	Improved infrastructure including access for cyclists and pedestrians will reduce carbon emissions, rural isolation and rural poverty.	

5. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Social Justice, Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

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	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	The proposals aim to support our town centres, retaining important amenities that serve local communities and which provide a significant level of employment both directly and indirectly, e.g. by supporting the tourism industry and support services.		
Safeguarding	During the delivery of the programme of activities, safeguarding will be at the forefront to ensure that any future service delivery promotes the well-being of children and vulnerable adults, preventing them from being harmed and protecting those who are at risk of abuse and neglect.	Any negative impacts can be mitigated if suitable safeguarding strategies are put in place.	
Corporate Parenting	During the delivery of this programme of activities the needs of any 'looked after' children will be considered to ensure any future service delivery protects their welfare.	As above.	

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

Monmouthshire County Council Corporate Plan 22 for '22

- Shop vacancy data and town centre footfall data
- Active Travel consultation on integrated network maps 2021
- Monmouthshire Local Public Service Board plan priorities and community engagement identifying issues facing our communities
- Future Wales 2040 and the adopted Monmouthshire Local Development Plan 2011-2021

7. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The grant funded projects will support our high streets, ensuring we have vibrant and vital town centres which retain amenities to serve our communities and are attractive to tourists and visitors.

8. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Continue to review of measures via live feedback.	Ongoing	Regen Team

9. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
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1	Officer sign off of proposals, with agreement from Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure and Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Land Use Planning	18 th June 2020	Amendments to proposals made during previous ten days from meetings with businesses and Town/Community representatives.
2	Project update as measures are amended and street furniture installed	18 th March 2021	Review of parking provision and accessibility
3	Proposal to extend temporary trial measures for up to an additional 18 months	1 st September 2021	n/a

SUBJECT: SIGNING UP TO THE PLACEMAKING WALES CHARTER
MEETING: CABINET
DATE: 15th SEPTEMBER 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet's endorsement of the proposal that Monmouthshire County Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet agrees that Monmouthshire County Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter.

3. KEY ISSUES:

Background

- 3.1 Placemaking is the proactive and collaborative process of creating and managing places. *Future Wales: the National Plan 2040* and national planning policy identify placemaking as being essential to the delivery of sustainable development and achieving improvements in the well-being of communities (Planning Policy Wales edition 11 para 2.10). The Welsh Government's document *Building Back Better* (July 2020) identifies the importance of placemaking to Covid-19 pandemic recovery:

"The Covid-19 Pandemic and our collective response to the issues it raises, is one of the most complicated challenges in a generation. We have all had to do things differently, think more about our actions, and act carefully and sensitively to those around us...Now, more than ever, we need to think about places and placemaking. This will be our core value in the work we take forward to bring about recovery in Wales. The regenerative action we take at all levels will be driven by integrated thinking and not short-term expedience which can have negative longer term consequences."

(Building Back Better, July 2020 page 2 - foreword by Julie James MS)

- 3.2 However, placemaking relates to far more than just the Council's land use planning service, and in fact relates to multiple service areas across the breadth of local government that contribute to the creation and management of places. It is for this reason that Cabinet is being asked to consider signing up to the Placemaking Wales Charter as a whole organisation, rather than just as a Local Planning Authority. To date, Swansea City Council and Newport City Council (via its PSB) are the only other Local Authorities that have signed up to the Charter on an organisation-wide basis. Other signatories include:

- Pobl;
- Sustrans;
- Transport for Wales;
- WLGA;
- the Royal Town Planning Institute;
- the Royal Society of Architects in Wales;
- the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors;
- the Institute of Civil Engineers;
- the Home Builders Federation

- the Federation of Master Builders;
- Cardiff and Vale Health Board;
- Cardiff University;
- the Chartered Institute of Housing;
- the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation; and
- all Welsh Local Planning Authorities via the Planning Officers' Society for Wales.

4. The Placemaking Charter

4.1 The Placemaking Wales Charter has been developed by Welsh Government and the Design Commission for Wales in collaboration with the Placemaking Wales Partnership: a multi-disciplinary group representing professions and organisations working within the built and natural environment. The Charter builds on the strengthening focus on placemaking in policy and practice in Wales and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places. A link to the charter is provided as Appendix 1.

4.2 Placemaking Wales Charter signatories agree to promote the following principles in the planning, design and management of new and existing places:

People and Community – The local community are involved in the development of proposals. The needs, aspirations, health and well-being of all people are considered at the outset. Proposals are shaped to help to meet these needs as well as create, integrate, protect and/or enhance a sense of community and promote equality.

Location – Places grow and develop in a way that uses land efficiently, supports and enhances existing places and is well connected. The location of housing, employment leisure and other facilities are planned to help reduce the need to travel.

Movement – Walking, cycling and public transport are prioritised to provide a choice of transport modes and avoid dependence on private vehicles. Well designed and safe active travel routes connect to the wider active travel and public transport network, and public transport stations and stops are positively integrated.

Mix of Uses – Places have a range of purposes which provide opportunities for community development, local business growth and access to jobs, services and facilities via walking, cycling or public transport. Development density and a mix of uses and tenures helps to support a diverse community and vibrant public realm.

Public Realm – Streets and public spaces are well defined, welcoming, safe and inclusive with a distinct identity. They are designed to be robust and adaptable with landscape, green infrastructure and sustainable drainage well integrated. They are well connected to existing places and promote opportunities for social interaction and a range of activities for all people.

Identity – The positive, distinctive qualities of existing places are valued and respected. The unique features and opportunities of a location, including heritage, culture, language, built and natural physical attributes, are identified and responded to.

5 Placemaking in Monmouthshire

5.1 As a signatory to the Placemaking Charter, Monmouthshire County Council would be pledging to support placemaking in all relevant areas of our work and promote the six placemaking principles in the planning, design and management of new and existing places. The spirit of the partnership of one of mutual support, encouragement, and positive action. Its multi-disciplinary approach aligns well with the Council's collaborative approach and teamwork to ensure the delivery of sustainable development.

5.2 Signatories are expected to promote and uphold the principles of the charter in all of their work: -

- Involve the local community in the development of proposals
- Choose sustainable locations for new development
- Prioritise walking, cycling and public transport
- Create inclusive, well defined, safe and welcoming streets and public spaces
- Promote a sustainable mix of uses to make places vibrant
- Value and respect the positive distinctive qualities and identity of existing places

5.3 These pledges closely align to the Council's core purpose of helping to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations. It also aligns with the Council's values of teamwork openness, fairness and flexibility, and the embedded practice of services working together to achieve the best outcomes. Becoming a signatory of the Placemaking Wales Charter will complement and endorse the Council's commitment to wellbeing and sustainable development.

5.4 The Council is already working on a number of projects that embrace placemaking and the principles set out in the Charter. These include:

- Establishing the new Regional Public Services Board and work on the existing Local Wellbeing Plan;
- Declaration of a Climate Emergency;
- The Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP), which will allocate land for development, designate areas for protection and outline a planning policy framework for planning decisions up to 2033;
- Partnership working to deliver projects such as the dementia-friendly development at Crick Road, Portskewett and associated care home, the 21st Century schools at Caldicot and Monmouth and the current work on the replacement of King Henry VIII school, Abergavenny;
- The Council's award-winning Green Infrastructure planning guidance developed by MonLife;
- The re-energised delivery of Active Travel improvements by MonLife and the Highways service;
- The regeneration masterplan for Caldicot Town Centre, which is identified within the Placemaking Wales Charter as a key case study. The Charter recognises the cross-cutting work of the design team to turn The Cross from a space into a place. The project creates a civilised street that is more accessible for pedestrians and cyclists, improved public transport infrastructure and enhancements to stimulate economic and social activities, incorporates green infrastructure for ecological resilience and people's wellbeing and enhances tourism opportunities.

5.5 It is evident that the principles of the Placemaking Charter Wales are aligned with the Council's core purpose and values, and that the Charter is complementary to the focus on outcomes and positive sustainable development that enhances communities. Placemaking is going to be key to ensuring that our communities thrive in a post-pandemic world and that our town centres and settlements have well-designed and well-maintained built and natural environments. Becoming a signatory to the Placemaking Charter therefore provides an opportunity for the Council to confirm its commitment to delivering quality places and recognising the key role that this plays in enhancing the health and well-being of its communities and residents for the long-term future.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 It is recognised within the Placemaking Wales Charter that a placemaking approach should be fully aligned with the goals and ways of working of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015. The proposals to become a signatory of the charter is in accordance with the wellbeing goals and the sustainable development principles. An Equality and Future Generations Evaluation (including equalities and sustainability impact assessment) is attached to this report at **Appendix 2**.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Monmouthshire County Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter

Option	Benefit	Risk	Comment
Monmouthshire County Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter	The Council confirms its commitment to delivering and maintaining quality places and recognises the key role that this plays in enhancing the health and well-being of its communities and residents for the long-term future.	Potential additional development costs associated with ensuring placemaking objectives are met in development proposals and in future maintenance. It should be noted that the Charter outlines that true placemaking should not result in additional cost implications.	The Placemaking Wales Charter seeks to deliver the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generation and signing the charter reaffirms the Council's commitment to delivering this purpose. This is the preferred option.
Do not become a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter		If Monmouthshire is not a signatory of the Charter there is a risk that its commitment to placemaking is questioned.	Many aspects of the Charter are covered by other legislative or policy requirements, for example the Wellbeing of Future generations Act, the Socio-Economic Duty, national planning policy, the Active Travel Act, the biodiversity enhancement duty, so in reality should happen anyway. However, it would be a positive step to show commitment by signing up to the Charter.

6. RESOURCE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Compliance with the Placemaking agenda, and being a signatory to the Charter, requires that the Council ensures proposals, including its own schemes, are elevated above 'placeless' and/or low quality developments. This inevitably requires an appropriate level of time investment (for example in community engagement and multidisciplinary officer meetings) and financial commitment (for example to ensure quality public realm works and future maintenance). Notwithstanding this, provided that placemaking is addressed in a comprehensive manner at a suitably early stage, following the principles set out in the Charter will not necessitate any increase in costs being incurred by the Council on its projects. Importantly, good placemaking is far more than specifying expensive materials or reducing the scale or scope of development. In many instances, adhering to the principles of the Charter can be suitably addressed using 'everyday' materials, utilised in a careful and creative manner.

- 6.2 The Council in any event sets itself high standards in this regard, and has emphasised its commitment to advancing its schemes in compliance with requirements set by national policy and legislation. The Welsh Government's 'Future Wales 2040' provides the national statutory development plan and contains a specific policy requiring the public sector to show leadership and apply placemaking principles to support growth and regeneration for the benefit of communities. It states under Policy 2: "*The public sector must lead by example and apply placemaking principles to create exemplar developments. In particular, (it) must prioritise design quality, innovation and sustainability.*"
- 6.3 Any costs associated with embedding placemaking principles into decision making will be met within existing service area budgets and potentially using additional capital funding from grants. There could be additional revenue budget pressures to maintain a high quality public realm.

7. CONSULTEES

- Enterprise DMT
- SLT
- MCC colleagues via the Digital Cwtch Friday 20th August 2021

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- [Future Wales 2040: The National Plan \(Feb, 2021\)](#)
- [Planning Policy Wales \(Edition 11, Feb 2021\)](#)
- [Building Better Places : The planning system delivering resilient and brighter futures \(July 2020\)](#)
- [Placemaking Guide 2020 Design Commission for Wales \(Appendix 1\)](#)

9. AUTHORS:

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Head of Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding

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APPENDICES:

APPENDIX 1: [Placemaking Guide 2020 Design Commission for Wales](#)

APPENDIX 2: Future Generations Evaluation

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Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

Name of the Officer completing the evaluation

Mark Hand

Phone no: 07773478579

E-mail: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal

To consider the proposal that Monmouthshire County Council becomes a signatory to the Placemaking Wales Charter.

The Placemaking Wales Charter has been developed by Welsh Government and the Design Commission for Wales in collaboration with the Placemaking Wales Partnership – a multi-disciplinary group representing professions and organisations working within the built and natural environment. The Charter builds on the strengthening focus on placemaking in policy and practice in Wales and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places. The Placemaking Wales Charter was launched in September 2020 by Julie James, Minister for Housing and Local Government.

Placemaking is the proactive and collaborative process of creating and managing places. This process relates to more than the planning services function of the Council, and in fact relates to multiple service areas across local government that contribute to the creation and management of places. Placemaking is a key process to deliver the duties of the Well Being of Future Generations Act, and its multi disciplinary requirements align well with the Council's collaborative approach and teamwork to ensure the delivery of sustainable development.

The Placemaking Wales Charter seeks to deliver the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generation and signing the charter reaffirms the Council's commitment to delivering this purpose.

Name of Service area All areas of the Council	Date 01/07/2021
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- 1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	The placemaking charter seeks to ensure inclusive design principles when the Council makes development decisions within the built and natural environment. The charter outlines six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places. One of these is people and community and it seeks to ensure that development is fit for purposes and caters for all people regardless of age profile. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all ages will enhance social cohesion and help tackle isolation and loneliness, which can disproportionately affect older people who may be living alone or leave their homes less frequently.	None.	Ensuring placemaking principles are considered during decision making it will ensure better outcomes and better places for people. Effective community engagement will ensure views of all age groups are heard and considered.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Disability	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and help tackle isolation and loneliness, and improve mental wellbeing.	None	Ensuring placemaking principles are considered during decision making it will ensure better outcomes and better places for people. Effective engagement with disability groups as well as the wider community will ensure the needs of all are heard and considered.
Gender reassignment	None	None	N/A
Marriage or civil partnership	None	None	N/A

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Pregnancy or maternity	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and help tackle isolation and loneliness, and improve mental wellbeing. Accessible and safe places to meet others could benefit new parents who feel lonely or have pre- or post natal depression.	None	Ensuring placemaking principles are considered during decision making it will ensure better outcomes and better places for people.
Race	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and reduce the risks of hate crime.	None	N/A
Religion or Belief	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and reduce the risks of hate crime	None	N/A

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Sex	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and reduce the risks of hate crime	None	N/A
Sexual Orientation	The Placemaking charter recognises the importance of the health and well-being and promotes accessible places and spaces for people and aims to create attractive, safe and accessible places to live, work and visit. Accessible multipurpose places that are suitable and safe for all will enhance social cohesion and reduce the risks of hate crime	None	N/A

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?

Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	<p>The Social Justice strategy focuses on three main areas: tackling loneliness and isolation; tackling poverty and promoting equitable economic prosperity; and giving children the best start in life.</p> <p>The placemaking charter seeks to promote a holistic approach to the planning and design of development and spaces, focused on positive outcomes. It draws upon an area's potential to create high quality development and public spaces that promote people's prosperity, health, happiness and well-being in the widest sense. Two of the six principles of placemaking are People and Community and the Public Realm. It seeks to ensure that streets and public spaces are well defined, welcoming, safe and inclusive with a distinct identity. They are designed to be robust and adaptable with landscape, green infrastructure and sustainable drainage well integrated. They are well connected to existing places and promote opportunities for social interaction and a range of activities for all people. The charter would help tackle loneliness by encouraging interaction in places and it would create well designed places that would give children the best start in life and seek to promote equality.</p>	None	Placemaking will be embedded into the planning policies within the Replacement Local Development Plan that will ensure that all planning decisions are made in accordance with the placemaking principles.
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3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	One of the six placemaking principles is Identity and the Welsh language is a key aspect of this principle. This principle outlines that the positive, distinctive qualities of existing places are valued and respected. The unique features and opportunities of a location, including heritage, culture, language, built and natural physical attributes, are identified and responded to. Ensuring that development proposals reflect the identity of an area could lead to the promotion of the Welsh language within development proposals by the naming of places and spaces (eg street names). The charter explicitly seeks to support and promote the Welsh language. It also seeks to consider language in the makeup of place and what impact development might have on it.	None	The Welsh Language is a already material planning consideration within the placemaking charter. The charter clearly outlines the promotion of the Welsh language and Welsh identity when considering development proposals and decisions relating to the built and natural environment.
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce	N/A	N/A.	N/A

Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	Documentation used to engage with communities or to publicise development with the public and the consultation along with notices, social media and correspondence will be bilingual. A document will be in English only if it comes from an external source that is not subject to compliance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.	Not all staff within the council are Welsh speakers, however, there are robust systems in place to deal with phone calls and correspondence without delaying service delivery.	
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4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	Positive: One of the principles of the placemaking charter is a mix of uses. The charter outlines that places with a range of purposes which provide opportunities for community development, local business growth and access to jobs, services and facilities via walking, cycling or public transport. Development density and a mix of uses and tenures helps to support a diverse community and vibrant public realm. The placemaking charter seeks to improve places so that it encourages investment and economic prosperity. Negative: N/A	The placemaking charter seeks to enhance the functionality and appearance of the built environment and promotes good design to create prosperous places within Wales.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and	Positive: The placemaking charter seeks to incorporate green infrastructure and sustainable drainage solutions within the built and natural	To better contribute to positive impacts of the placemaking charter there are detailed planning policies within the exiting LDP and there will



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	environment resulting in our places being more resilient and adapting to climate change. Negative: N/A	additional revised planning policies with updated parameters within the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximised and health impacts are understood	Positive: The charter outlines that the needs, aspirations, health and well-being of all people are considered at the outset of decision making and that decisions should be made that maximises peoples well being and health, as well as promoting active travel. Making decisions about the built and natural environment in accordance with the placemaking principles will benefit the physical and mental well being of people living within Monmouthshire. Having safe and pleasant places to get to on foot, including recreational facilities, open spaces, shops and public transport, means that people of all ages and ability have the opportunity for higher levels of physical activity. Negative: N/A	The ongoing effective bidding for and delivery of Active Travel projects is a key way of supporting this goal.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Positive: The charter seeks to make communities more connected, and places promote a sense of community and equality. Negative: N/A	There may be other factors outside of the Council's control that affect community cohesion. The council needs to continue to work with communities and other agencies such as the Police, Health Board and Registered Social Landlords to encourage fully active engagement with development proposals.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local	Positive: The charter seeks to directly address the climate change challenge and seeks to reduce travel and promote sustainable forms of development.	The council becoming a signatory of the placemaking charter aligns with the council's commitment to tackle climate change and



Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
social, economic and environmental wellbeing	<p>The placemaking principle will contribute to ensuring that the council can continue to support sustainable development proposals that have social, economic and environmental benefits and enhance our places for the benefit of people within communities.</p> <p>Negative: None.</p>	<p>contributes to ensuring that development uses space efficiently, encourages multifunctional spaces and ensures sustainable forms of development. The RLDP will have detailed planning policies relating climate change considerations.</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>	<p>Positive: Identity and the Welsh language is a key aspect of placemaking charter. The unique features and opportunities of a location, including heritage, culture, language, built and natural physical attributes, are identified and responded to. Ensuring that development proposals reflect the identity of an area could lead to the promotion of the Welsh language within development proposals by the naming of places and spaces (eg street names). The charter explicitly seeks to support and promote the Welsh language. It also seeks to consider language in the makeup of place and what impact development might have on it.</p> <p>Negative: N/A</p>	<p>The placemaking principles can be embedded into decision making however people and communities would still need to embrace these places and use them for sport, art and recreation activities.</p>
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>Positive: Colourful and interesting urban green spaces help build a sense of pride, stimulate community spirit and promote civil society. Incorporating play spaces and parks for children into new developments can create safe quality places for children to play in a rich environment and will ensure that they have a good start in life. Having access to community facilities can help people's wellbeing and</p>	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<p>sense of belonging, helping people to thrive and reduce loneliness and isolation.</p> <p>Negative: None.</p>	

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The principles of placemaking help to create and sustain better places. Placemaking promotes walking, cycling, public transport, mixed use developments, public space, community infrastructure and identity, which can have a positive effect for people and the planet, as well as the monetary value of a development or local area. Decisions made on development proposals and places that are underpinned by placemaking principles ensure that the built and natural environment is fit for purposes and is multifunctional and suitable for all people within society and considers the implications of development on longer term challenges such as climate change.</p>	<p>Becoming a signatory of the placemaking charter would ensure that when making decisions on places the council will consider the implications of the development on people and the environment and not just consider short term solutions due to monetary value however consider the longer implications and financial cost of not providing innovative design solutions that are underpinned by placemaking principles.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>The placemaking charter puts people at the heart of decision making and encourages that development proposals are shaped and formed with communities. The charter seeks consultation and engagement with communities. It outlines that all representatives of all groups being affected by the decisions are engaged, including young people, BAME communities, older people and people with disabilities. It promotes community ownership and the council will work with other partners to deliver the objectives of the placemaking charter and enhance places within the county.</p>	
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>The placemaking charter has been developed by the Design Commission for Wales in association with the Welsh Government and other interested parties. It has been designed to create and sustain better places and ensure that development decisions have a positive effect for people and the planet as well as the monetary value of a development or local area.</p> <p>When making decision on planning application full consultation exercises will take place with local residents and the community as well as internal and external parties to seek their views on development proposals. The placemaking charter and ensure developments meet the placemaking principles will enable development to be multifunctional and deliver a high form of development for people within that area.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>The principles in the charter seek to prevent adverse impact on climate change and prevent additional costs in society.. Locating development in the right place and ensuring it is well-connected and close to amenities, reduce the need to travel. By not development on floodplains, future flood risk is not unnecessarily increased. Encouraging active travel reduces emissions and being physically active reduces the risks of obesity and chronic conditions. Creating spaces where older people can keep active can reduce their risk of falling, which affects their independence and can be a significant avoidable cost for health and social care services. Integrating green infrastructure assets and sustainable drainage schemes offsets carbon emissions, encourages biodiversity and reduces flood risk. Well-designed streets and public spaces can be designed to be easy and cost effective to maintain.</p>	<p>To better contribute towards ensuring that these preventive measures are in place it may be appropriate to challenge historical ways of thinking and working. Placemaking is about multidisciplinary functions working together to find solutions and ensuring the best development possible. This may require a more collaborative approach to budget decisions.</p>
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p> <p>Integration</p>	<p>The placemaking charter has been developed by the Design Commission for Wales and Welsh Government with the Well-being of Future Generations Act fully embedded in its creation. If the Council does decide to become a signatory of the charter it further evidences our commitment to ensuring that the well being goals are being considered as part of our decision making process within the built and natural environment.</p> <p>A placemaking approach should be fully aligned with the goals and ways of working of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015. Placemaking is enshrined in planning at the national level in Wales, and this guide seeks to support and elaborate on the policy set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW) where placemaking is the central theme.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	None.	.None.	N/A.
Corporate Parenting	None	None.	N/A.

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

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- Future Wales 2040: The National Plan (Feb, 2021) <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040.pdf>
- Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11, Feb 2021) [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 11 \(gov.wales\)](#)
- Building Better Places : The planning system delivering resilient and brighter futures July 2020 [Building Better Places: The Planning System delivering Resilient and Brighter Futures - placemaking and the Covid-19 recovery \(gov.wales\)](#)
- Placemaking Guide 2020 Design Commission for Wales [Placemaking Charter - Design Commission for Wales \(dcfw.org\)](#)

7. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

Positive -

The Placemaking Charter aligns with the Council's core purpose to build sustainable and resilient communities that support the well-being of current and future generations.

Negative –

None.

8. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Recommend to Cabinet that the Council becomes a signatory of the placemaking charter.	Council Cabient meeting on 15 th September 2021	Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding

9. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
0.0	Enterprise DMT	01/07/2021	Draft for Enterprise DMT 12 th July 2021
1.0	Cabinet	01/09/2021	Reworded to be more concise

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SUBJECT:	MONMOUTHSHIRE CC CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 2020
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	15th September 2020
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE

To receive the Council's updated Code of Corporate Governance to support the completion of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Cabinet formerly approve the Council's updated Code of Corporate Governance.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 A **draft** version of the Council's updated Code of Corporate Governance to support the completion of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) was presented to the Council's Governance and Audit Committee (formerly Audit Committee) in June 2020. In line with the report recommendations, the Audit Committee contributed to the appropriateness and content of the draft Code of Corporate Governance and subsequently endorsed it for Cabinet approval.
- 3.2 Corporate Governance is about doing the right thing at the right time for the right people in an open and transparent way. The AGS sets out how Monmouthshire demonstrates it has appropriate governance arrangements in place and how they are continually reviewed to strengthen them moving forward. The Code of Corporate Governance is the framework on which the AGS is based.
- 3.3 The original Code of Corporate Governance, which is consistent with the principles of the C.I.P.F.A./S.O.L.A.C.E. Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government', was approved by Council in July 2011. This set the standard for local authority governance in the UK. Monmouthshire's Code was revised and updated in May 2014.
- 3.4 CIPFA and Solace reviewed the Framework in 2015 to ensure it remained 'fit for purpose' and published a revised edition in spring 2016.
- 3.5 The guidance produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (C.I.P.F.A.) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (S.O.L.A.C.E.), the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016' and Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Guidance Notes for Welsh Authorities 2016'. It embraced the elements of internal financial control required by the 'Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom'.

- 3.6 Monmouthshire County Council (the Council) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and to proper standards, and that public money is

safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

- 3.7 In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.
- 3.8 Monmouthshire's Code of Corporate Governance has been updated and revised to comply with the CIPFA / SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016' (Appendix 1)

4 The Purpose of the Governance Framework

- 4.1 The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the Authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads the community. It enables the Authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost effective services.
- 4.2 The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

5 The Governance Framework

- 5.1 The Council's Code of Corporate Governance has been developed in line with the following principles:

Overarching requirements for acting in the public interest:

- A. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law
- B. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

In addition achieving good governance in the Council requires effective arrangements for:

- C. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits
- D. Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
- E. Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it
- F. Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management

- G. Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

6 REASONS

- 6.1 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 require an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to be prepared and included within the Council's year end financial statements. The Code of Corporate Governance is the Council's framework on which the AGS is based.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

8 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

This report provides Members with information on the updated Code of Corporate Governance for the Authority and carries no decisions. There are therefore no equality of future generations' implications directly arising from this report.

9 CONSULTEES

Deputy Chief Executive & Chief Officer Resources
Strategic Leadership Team
Governance & Audit Committee (formerly Audit Committee)

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

CIPFA / SOLACE Delivering Good Governance 2016

11 AUTHOR AND CONTACT DETAILS

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The Code of Corporate Governance Monmouthshire County Council 2020

The purpose of this Code is to state the importance to the Council of good corporate governance and to set out the Council's commitment to the principles involved.

The Code is based on guidance to all UK local authorities; CIPFA / SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016'

The Code is included in the Council's constitution and therefore applies to all members and employees of the Council and also to any individuals or bodies authorised to act on its behalf.

The Code will be reviewed in its entirety by no later than 31 March 2024, but minor reviews and updates will be made annually as required.

Reviewed and updated April 2020

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1. The Purpose of the Governance Framework

- 1.1. This Code sets out Monmouthshire County Council's approach to achieving and maintaining good corporate governance.
- 1.2. Monmouthshire County Council (the Council) is by nature, a complex organisation which affects the lives of all citizens in the area: As well as providing a diverse range of services, it also works with partner organisations which provide other public services. The Council's aims and priorities reflect these responsibilities.
- 1.3. The Council sees Corporate Governance as doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. It comprises the systems and processes, and also the culture and values, by which the Council is directed and controlled and how it accounts to and engages with its citizens.
- 1.4. Strong, transparent and responsive governance enables the Council to put citizens first by pursuing its aims and priorities effectively, and by underpinning them with appropriate mechanisms for managing performance and risk. In order to maintain citizens' confidence, these mechanisms must be sound and be seen to be sound.
- 1.5. It is essential that there is confidence in our corporate governance and the Council must therefore ensure that:
 - as a democratic body, we engage with and account to our citizens and stakeholders effectively;
 - we conduct our business in accordance with the law and to proper standards;
 - public money is properly accounted for and is used economically, efficiently and effectively;
 - controls are proportionate to risk so as not to impede performance;
 - we continuously improve the way in which we function, in terms of effectiveness, quality, service availability, fairness, sustainability and innovation; and
 - we fulfil our purpose and meet our priorities as set out in the Council Plan 2017-22.
- 1.6. The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, culture and values, by which the Authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads the community. It enables the Authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate services and value for money.
- 1.7. The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Authority's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood and potential impact of those risks being realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

2. The Governance Framework

- 2.1. The Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016 Edition produced by CIPFA and SOLACE (the Framework) defines governance as:

'Governance comprises the arrangements put in place to ensure that the intended outcomes for stakeholders are defined and achieved.'

The Framework also states that

'To deliver good governance in the public sector, both governing bodies and individuals working for public sector entities must try to achieve their entity's objectives while acting in the public interest at all times,

Acting in the public interest implies primary consideration of the benefits for society, which should result in positive outcomes for service users and other stakeholders.

2.2. In local government, the governing body is the full council.

3. Background

3.1. The *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework* published by CIPFA and SOLACE in 2007 set the standard for local authority governance in the UK. CIPFA and SOLACE reviewed the Framework in 2015 to ensure it remained fit for purpose and published a revised Framework in spring 2016.

3.2. The new *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework* 2016 edition applies to annual governance statements prepared for the financial year 2016/17 onwards.

3.3. The new Framework introduced 7 new principles as follows:

- A) Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law.
- B) Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement.
- C) Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits.
- D) Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes.
- E) Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it.
- F) Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and string public financial management.
- G) Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability.

COMMITMENTS TO GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

Principle A: Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

The Council is accountable not only for how much it spends, but also for how we use the resources under our stewardship. This includes accountability for outputs, both positive and negative, and for the outcomes we have achieved. In addition, we have an overarching responsibility to serve the public interest in adhering to the requirements of legislation and government policies. It is essential that, as a whole, we can demonstrate the appropriateness of all our actions and have mechanisms in place to encourage and enforce adherence to ethical values and to respect the rule of law.

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Behaving with integrity	<p>A1 Ensuring members and officers behave with integrity and lead a culture where acting in the public interest is visibly and consistently demonstrated thereby protecting the reputation of the Council</p> <p>A2 Ensuring members take the lead in establishing specific standard operating principles or values for the Council and its staff and that they are communicated and understood. These should build on the Seven Principles of Public Life (the Nolan Principles)</p> <p>A3 Leading by example and using these standard operating principles or values as a framework for decision making and other actions</p> <p>A4 Demonstrating, communicating and embedding the standard operating principles or values through appropriate policies and processes which are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they are operating effectively</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members Code of Conduct in Constitution which reflects Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct)(Wales) Order 2016 Officers Code of Conduct in Constitution Registers of interests / hospitality Induction training Member/Officer Protocol in Constitution Member led Authority principles/document Member training programme Council Values — Openness, Fairness, Flexibility, Teamwork Whistleblowing Policy Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy Standards Committee Standards Committee Annual Report presented to Council Member Dispute Resolution Complaints procedure
Demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values	<p>A5 Seeking to establish, monitor and maintain the Council's ethical standards and performance</p> <p>A6 Underpinning personal behaviour with ethical values and ensuring they</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Values — Openness, Fairness, Flexibility, Teamwork Contract procedure rules Codes of conduct for members and employees Financial procedure rules

	<p>permeate all aspects of the Council's culture and operation</p> <p>A7 Developing and maintaining robust policies and procedures which place emphasis on agreed ethical values</p> <p>A8 Ensuring that external providers of services on behalf of the Council are required to act with integrity and in compliance with high ethical standards expected by the Council.</p>	
Respecting the rule of law	<p>A9 Ensuring members and staff demonstrate a strong commitment to the rule of the law as well as adhering to relevant laws and regulations</p> <p>A10 Creating the conditions to ensure that the statutory officers, other key post holders and members are able to fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with legislative and regulatory requirements</p> <p>A11 Striving to optimise the use of the full powers available for the benefit of citizens, communities and other stakeholders</p> <p>A12 Dealing with breaches of legal and regulatory provisions effectively</p> <p>A13 Ensuring corruption and misuse of power are dealt with effectively</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member and Officer Code of Conduct in Constitution ▪ Role of Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer established in Constitution ▪ CIPFA statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer ▪ Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy ▪ Audit Committee ▪ Internal Audit Section ▪ Internal Audit Annual Report presented to Audit Committee ▪ External Auditors Annual Audit Letter ▪ Standards Committee ▪ Whistleblowing Policy ▪ Complaints procedure

Principle B: Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

Local government is run for the public good; organisations therefore should ensure openness in their activities. Clear, trusted channels of communication and consultation should be used to engage effectively with all groups of stakeholders, such as individual citizens and service users, as well as institutional stakeholders.

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Openness	<p>B1 Ensuring an open culture through demonstrating, documenting and communicating our commitment to openness</p> <p>B2 Making decisions that are open about actions, plans, resource use, forecasts, outputs and outcomes. The presumption is for openness. If that is not the case, a justification for the reasoning for keeping a decision confidential should be provided</p> <p>B3 Providing clear reasoning and evidence for decisions in both public records and explanations to stakeholders and being explicit about the criteria, rationale and considerations used. In due course, ensuring that the impact and consequences of those decisions are clear</p> <p>B4 Using formal and informal consultation and engagement to determine the most appropriate and effective interventions/ courses of action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agendas published in advance of meetings Minutes published following meetings Democratic meetings live streaming on You Tube Decision making process described in Constitution Forward Plan published on internet showing key decisions to be made by Council and Cabinet Annual budget consultation Freedom of Information Scheme Public questions at Council, Cabinet and Select Committees Engagement with hard to reach groups such as BME, Disability and LGBT communities. As well as engagement with children and young people to meet the requirement of the UNCRC Publication of open data sets on the Council's website
Engaging comprehensively with institutional stakeholders	<p>B5 Effectively engaging with institutional stakeholders to ensure that the purpose, objectives and intended outcomes for each stakeholder relationship are clear so that outcomes are achieved successfully and sustainably</p> <p>B6 Developing formal and informal partnerships to allow for resources to be used more efficiently and outcomes achieved more effectively</p> <p>B7 Ensuring that partnerships are based on trust, a shared commitment to change and a culture that promotes and accepts challenge among</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monmouthshire Public Service Board Well- Being Plan Monmouthshire Public Service Board Partnership arrangements and structure

	partners and that the added value of partnership working is explicit	
Engaging stakeholders effectively, including individual citizens and service users	<p>B8 A clear policy on the type of issues that the Council will meaningfully consult with or involve individual citizens, service users and other stakeholders to ensure that service provision is contributing towards the achievement of intended outcomes</p> <p>B9 Ensuring that communication methods are effective and that members and officers are clear about their roles with regard to community engagement</p> <p>B10 Encouraging, collecting and evaluating the views and experiences of communities, citizens, service users and organisations of different backgrounds including reference to future needs</p> <p>B11 Implementing effective feedback mechanisms in order to demonstrate how their views have been taken into account</p> <p>B12 Balancing feedback from more active stakeholder groups with other stakeholder groups to ensure inclusivity</p> <p>B13 Taking account of the interests of future generations of tax payers and service users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ward role of Councillors ▪ Consultations on the council website and social media platforms ▪ Annual Staff Survey ▪ Complaints Policy and Annual Report ▪ MTFP ▪ Complaints procedure ▪ Future Generations evaluation, including Equality Impact Assessment, on decision reports ▪ Strategic Equality Plan

The long-term nature and impact of many of local government's responsibilities mean that it should define and plan outcomes and that these should be sustainable. Decisions should further the authority's purpose, contribute to intended benefits and outcomes, and remain within the limits of authority and resources. Input from all groups of stakeholders, including citizens, service users and institutional stakeholders, is vital to the success of this process and in balancing competing demands when determining priorities for the finite resources available

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Defining Outcomes	<p>C1 Having a clear vision which is an agreed formal statement of the Council's purpose and intended outcomes containing appropriate performance indicators, which provides the basis for the Council's overall strategy, planning and other decisions</p> <p>C2 Specifying the intended impact on, or changes for, stakeholders including citizens and service users. It could be immediately or over the course of a year or longer</p> <p>C3 Delivering defined outcomes on a sustainable basis within the resources that will be available</p> <p>C4 Identifying and managing risks to the achievement of outcomes</p> <p>C5 Managing service users' expectations effectively with regard to determining priorities and making the best use of the resources available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate Plan produced and reviewed annually in accordance with Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and 'Wellbeing Objectives' in Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Quarterly, six monthly & annual Performance Monitoring Reports Corporate Plan Annual Performance Report Public Service Board Well-being Plan annual report Service business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area. Monthly Financial Monitoring meetings held for each service area Risk Management Policy and Guidance Whole Authority Strategic Risk Register Capital Review Programme
Sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits	<p>C6 Considering and balancing the combined economic, social and environmental impact of policies, plans and decisions when taking decisions about service provision</p> <p>C7 Taking a longer-term view with regard to decision making, taking account of risk and acting transparently where there are potential conflicts between the Council's intended outcomes and short-term factors such as the political cycle or financial constraints</p> <p>C8 Determining the wider public interest associated with balancing conflicting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium Term Financial Plan covering 3 financial years approved annually by Council Corporate Plan Risk management Policy and Guidance Whole Authority Strategic risk register Monmouthshire Public Service Board Well-being Plan Future Generations Evaluation, including Equality Impact

	<p>interests between achieving the various economic, social and environmental benefits, through consultation where possible, in order to ensure appropriate trade-offs</p> <p>C9 Ensuring fair access to services</p>	<p>Assessment, on decision making reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Service business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area.
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Local government achieves its intended outcomes by providing a mixture of legal, regulatory and practical interventions. Determining the right mix of these courses of action is a critically important strategic choice that local government has to make to ensure intended outcomes are achieved. They need robust decision-making mechanisms to ensure that their defined outcomes can be achieved in a way that provides the best trade-off between the various types of resource input while still enabling effective and efficient operations. Decisions made need to be reviewed continually to ensure that achievement of outcomes is optimised

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Determining interventions	<p>D1 Ensuring decision makers receive objective and rigorous analysis of a variety of options indicating how intended outcomes would be achieved and including the risks associated with those options. Therefore ensuring best value is achieved however services are provided</p> <p>D2 Considering feedback from citizens and service users when making decisions about service improvements or where services are no longer required in order to prioritise competing demands within limited resources available including people, skills, land and assets and bearing in mind future impacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate Plan Scrutiny / Select Committee function Risk management policy and guidance Whole Authority Strategic Risk Register Finance and Legal implications in all Council, Cabinet and Committee reports Report writing template and guidance Future Generations Evaluation (including Equality Impact Assessment) Results of consultation exercises
Planning Interventions	<p>D3 Establishing and implementing robust planning and control cycles that cover strategic and operational plans, priorities and targets</p> <p>D4 Engaging with internal and external stakeholders in determining how services and other courses of action should be planned and delivered</p> <p>D5 Considering and monitoring risks facing each partner when working collaboratively including shared risks</p> <p>D6 Ensuring arrangements are flexible and agile so that the mechanisms for delivering outputs can be adapted to changing circumstances</p> <p>D7 Establishing appropriate local performance indicators (as well as relevant statutory or other national performance indicators) as part of the planning process in order to identify how the performance of services and projects is to be measured</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Financial Monitoring meetings for each Directorate reviews progress and authorises corrective action where necessary Medium Term Financial Plan Annual budget setting process in place including consultation exercise Financial procedure rules Senior Management Structure Corporate Plan produced and reviewed annually in accordance with Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and 'Wellbeing Objectives' in Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Quarterly, six monthly & annual Performance Monitoring Reports Corporate Plan Annual Performance

	<p>D8 Ensuring capacity exists to generate the information required to review service quality regularly</p> <p>D9 Preparing budgets in accordance with organisational objectives, strategies and the medium-term financial plan</p> <p>D10 Informing medium and long-term resource planning by drawing up realistic estimates of revenue and capital expenditure aimed at developing a sustainable funding strategy</p>	<p>Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Service Board Well-being Plan Public Service Board Well-being Plan annual report Service business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area. Risk Management Policy and Guidance Whole Authority Strategic Risk Register
Optimising achievement of intended outcomes	<p>D11 Ensuring the medium term financial strategy integrates and balances service priorities, affordability and other resource constraints</p> <p>D12 Ensuring the budgeting process is all-inclusive, taking into account the full cost of operations over the medium and longer term</p> <p>D13 Ensuring the medium-term financial strategy sets the context for ongoing decisions on significant delivery issues or responses to changes in the external environment that may arise during the budgetary period in order for outcomes to be achieved while optimising resource usage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Financial Monitoring reports to Cabinet and scrutiny Mid-Year Budget Statement to Cabinet Medium Term Financial Plan Budget consultation Corporate Plan

Principle E — Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it.

Local government needs appropriate structures and leadership, as well as people with the right skills, appropriate qualifications and mindset, to operate efficiently and effectively and achieve their intended outcomes within the specified periods. A local government organisation must ensure that it has both the capacity to fulfil its own mandate and to make certain that there are policies in place to guarantee that its management has the operational capacity for the organisation as a whole. Because both individuals and the environment in which an authority operates will change over time, there will be a continuous need to develop its capacity as well as the skills and experience of the leadership of individual staff members. Leadership in local government entities is strengthened by the participation of people with many different types of backgrounds, reflecting the structure and diversity of communities

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Developing the entity's capacity	<p>E1 Developing and maintaining an effective workforce plan to enhance the strategic allocation of resources.</p> <p>E2 Reviewing operations, performance and use of assets on a regular basis to ensure their continuing effectiveness</p> <p>E3 Improving resource use through appropriate application of techniques such as benchmarking and other options in order to determine how the Council's resources are allocated so that outcomes are achieved effectively and efficiently</p> <p>E4 Recognising the benefits of partnerships and collaborative working where added value can be achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular performance review f Check in Check Out for all staff ▪ Service planning process includes workforce planning ▪ People Strategy ▪ Quarterly financial reports to Cabinet and Select ▪ Partnership & collaborative working arrangements ▪ Quarterly, six monthly & annual Performance Monitoring Reports ▪ Corporate Plan Annual Performance Report ▪ Public Service Board Well-being Plan annual report ▪ Service business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area.
Developing the capability of the entity's leadership and other individuals	<p>E5 Developing protocols to ensure that elected and appointed leaders negotiate with each other regarding their respective roles early on in the relationship and that a shared understanding of roles and objectives is maintained</p> <p>E6 Publishing a statement that specifies the types of decisions that are delegated and those reserved for the collective decision making of the governing body</p> <p>E7 Ensuring the leader and the chief executive have clearly defined and distinctive leadership roles within a structure, whereby the chief executive leads the authority in implementing strategy and managing the delivery of services and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member/Officer Protocol in Constitution ▪ Scheme of Delegation published in Constitution ▪ Monthly One to One meetings are held involving the Leader. Cabinet Members, Chief Executive, Chief Officers, Heads of Service and 3rd tier staff ▪ Councillor Training Programme developed based on a Training

	<p>other outputs set by members and each provides a check and a balance for each other's authority</p> <p>E8 Developing the capabilities of members and senior management to achieve effective shared leadership and to enable the Council to respond successfully to changing legal and policy demands as well as economic, political and environmental changes and risks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring members and staff have access to appropriate induction tailored to their role and that ongoing training and development matching individual and organisational requirements is available and encouraged, • ensuring members and officers have the appropriate skills, knowledge, resources and support to fulfil their roles and responsibilities and ensuring that they are able to update their knowledge on a continuing basis, • ensuring personal, organisation and system-wide development through shared learning, including • lessons learnt from both internal and external governance weaknesses <p>E9 Ensuring that there are structures in place to encourage public participation</p> <p>E10 Taking steps to consider the leadership's own effectiveness and ensuring leaders are open to constructive feedback from peer review and inspections</p> <p>E11 Holding staff to account through regular performance reviews which take account of training or development needs</p> <p>E12 Ensuring arrangements are in place to maintain the health and wellbeing of the workforce and support individuals in maintaining their own physical and mental well being</p>	<p>Needs Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scrutiny member development programme ▪ Annual performance review for all staff under CICO ▪ Corporate training and development programme ▪ Occupational Health and Wellbeing Policy exists with aim of promoting the health and wellbeing of all employees to enable them to achieve their full potential at work ▪ Internal and external audit reports and action plans
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Principle F — Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and string public financial management

Local government needs to ensure that the organisations and governance structures that it oversees have implemented, and can sustain, an effective performance management system that facilitates effective and efficient delivery of planned services. Risk management and internal control are important and integral parts of a performance management system and crucial to the achievement of outcomes. Risk should be considered and addressed as part of all decision making activities. A strong system of financial management is essential for the implementation of policies and the achievement of intended outcomes, as it will ensure financial discipline, strategic allocation of resources, efficient service delivery and accountability. It is also essential that a culture and structure for scrutiny is in place as a key part of accountable decision making, policy making and review. A positive working culture that accepts, promotes and encourages constructive challenge is critical to successful scrutiny and successful delivery. Importantly, this culture does not happen automatically, it requires repeated public commitment from those in authority.

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Managing Risk	<p>F1 Recognising that risk management is an integral part of all activities and must be considered in all aspects of decision making</p> <p>F2 Implementing robust and integrated risk management arrangements and ensuring they are working effectively</p> <p>F3 Ensuring that responsibilities for managing individual risks are clearly allocated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk Management Policy and Guidance ▪ Whole Authority Strategic Risk Register ▪ Service Business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area, including service risk registers ▪ Strategic Risk Register reported to Audit Committee and Cabinet
Managing performance	<p>F4 Monitoring service delivery effectively including planning specification, execution and independent post-implementation review</p> <p>F5 Making decisions based on relevant, clear objective analysis and advice pointing out the implications and risks inherent in the Council's financial, social and environmental position and outlook</p> <p>F6 Ensuring an effective scrutiny or oversight function is in place which encourages constructive challenge and debate on policies and objectives before, during and after decisions are made, thereby enhancing the Council's performance and that of any organisation for which it is responsible</p> <p>F7 Providing members and senior management with regular reports on progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Corporate Plan produced and reviewed annually ▪ Corporate Plan Annual Performance Report ▪ Service Business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area. ▪ Quarterly, six monthly & annual Performance Monitoring Reports ▪ Director of Social Services Annual report ▪ Chief Officer Children & Young People Annual Report ▪ Scrutiny function ▪ Bi-monthly Directorate and Financial

	towards outcome achievement	monitoring meetings
	F8 Ensuring there is consistency between specification stages (such as budgets) and post-implementation reporting (eg financial statements)	
Robust internal control	<p>F9 Aligning the risk management strategy and policies on internal control with achieving objectives</p> <p>F10 Evaluating and monitoring risk management and internal control on a regular basis</p> <p>F11 Ensuring effective counter fraud and anti-corruption arrangements are in place</p> <p>F12 Ensuring additional assurance on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the framework of governance, risk management and control is provided by the internal auditor</p> <p>F13 Ensuring an audit committee or equivalent group or function which is independent of the executive and accountable to the governing body:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides a further source of effective assurance regarding arrangements for managing risk and maintaining an effective control environment • that its recommendations are listened to and acted upon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audit Committee provides assurance on effectiveness on internal control, risk management and governance ▪ Audit Committee Annual Report to Council ▪ Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy ▪ Role of Internal Audit Section ▪ Annual Plans approved by Audit Committee ▪ Annual Reports to Audit Committee ▪ Annual Governance Statement
Managing data	<p>F14 Ensuring effective arrangements are in place for the safe collection, storage, use and sharing of data, including processes to safeguard personal data</p> <p>F15 Ensuring effective arrangements are in place and operating effectively when sharing data with other bodies</p> <p>F16 Reviewing and auditing regularly the quality and accuracy of data used in decision making and performance monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data Protection Policy ▪ Information Management Strategy Information management governance arrangements ▪ Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO) in place ▪ Information Asset Register ▪ Information sharing guidance published ▪ Information Risk policy ▪ Annual National and Local performance Indicator data collection process and internal audit arrangements.
Strong public financial management	<p>F17 Ensuring financial management supports both long-term achievement of outcomes and short-term financial and operational performance</p> <p>F18 Ensuring well-developed financial management is integrated at all levels of planning and control, including management of financial risks and controls</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial procedure rules in Constitution ▪ Contract procedure rules in Constitution ▪ Accounting Instructions on Intranet ▪ Spending Restrictions document on Intranet

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Principle G: Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability

Accountability is about ensuring that those making decisions and delivering services are answerable for them. Effective accountability is concerned not only with reporting on actions completed but also ensuring that stakeholders are able to understand and respond as the organisation plans and carries out its activities in a transparent manner. Both external and internal audit contribute to effective accountability.

Sub-Principles	The Council is committed to:	What is in place to support this?
Implementing good practice in transparency	<p>G1 Writing and communicating reports for the public and other stakeholders in an understandable style appropriate to the intended audience and ensuring that they are easy to access and interrogate</p> <p>G2 Striking a balance between providing the right amount of information to satisfy transparency demands and enhance public scrutiny while not being too onerous to provide and for users to understand</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report writing template and guidance
Implementing good practices in reporting	<p>G3 Reporting at least annually on performance, value for money and the stewardship of resources</p> <p>G4 Ensuring owners and senior management own the result</p> <p>G5 Ensuring robust arrangements for assessing the extent to which the principles contained in the Framework have been applied and publishing the results on this assessment including an action plan for improvement and evidence to demonstrate good governance (annual governance statement)</p> <p>G6 Ensuring that the Framework is applied to jointly managed or shared service organisations as appropriate</p> <p>G7 Ensuring the performance information that accompanies the financial statements is prepared on a consistent and timely basis and the statements allow for comparison with other similar organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Statement of Accounts audited by external auditor and approved by Council Code of Corporate Governance based on CIPFA/SOLACE Framework 2016 Annual Governance Statement Corporate Plan Annual Performance Report Service Business Plans produced annually and reviewed quarterly by each service area
Assurance and effective accountability	<p>G8 Ensuring that recommendations for corrective action made by external audit are acted upon</p> <p>G9 Ensuring an effective internal audit service with direct access to members is in place which provides assurance with regard to governance arrangements and recommendations are acted upon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External Audit provided by Wales Audit Office Performance of Internal Audit Section monitored by Audit Committee Implementation of WAO and Internal Audit recommendations monitored by Audit Committee

	<p>G10 Welcoming peer challenge, reviews and inspections from regulatory bodies and implementing recommendations</p> <p>G11 Gaining assurance on risks associated with delivering services through third parties and that this is evidenced in the annual governance statement</p> <p>G12 Ensuring that when working in partnership, arrangements for accountability are clear and that the need for wider public accountability has been recognised and met</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peer Review, Corporate Assessment and Corporate Governance Review action plan monitored by Corporate Management Team ▪ Annual Governance Statement
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SUBJECT:	WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP
MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	15th September 2021
DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting 4 held on the 22nd July 2021.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1** We resolved that the following grants be awarded as per the schedule of applications.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2021/22 – MEETING 4.

- 1. St Matthews Church, Monkwood,** requested £2,000 funding assistance for an archaeological investigation of human remains following restoration work on the west wing of the church.

Recommendation: £1,400, awarded to assist in providing the costs of the archaeological investigation work for the historical benefits to the community residents now and for future generations.

- 2. United Reform Church,** requested £1,000 for repair of the Stained Glass Windows in this listed Church.

Recommendation: £750 awarded to assist in repairing the stained glass windows in this listed community asset.

- 3. Caldicot Walking Football Club,** requested £1,020 required for football equipment to be used by the walking football club to increase mobility and diversity of the population of Caldicot.

Recommendation: £320 awarded to assist in funding of new football equipment for the health benefits of members of the local community.

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Options available to the Committee are driven by the information supplied by the applicants.

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

No evaluation criteria is applicable to the grant awarded by the trust.

5. REASONS

A Meeting took place on Thursday 22nd July of the Welsh Church Fund Committee Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1).

County Councillors in attendance at meeting 4:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)
County Councillor D. Evans (Vice Chair)
County Councillor B. Strong
County Councillor S. Woodhouse

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE at meeting 3:

D Jarrett Central Finance
W Barnard Committee Administration

5.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE at meeting 4

None

5.3 CONFIRMATION OF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETINGs

The minutes of the meetings held on the 24th June 2021

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A total of £2,470.00 has been allocated to applicants at Meeting 4 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee. The remaining balance of £20,320 is available for distribution within the 2021-22 financial year.

7. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

There are no Future Generations, equality, safeguarding, corporate parenting or sustainable development implications directly arising from this report. The assessment is contained in the attached appendix.

8. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
All Cabinet Members
Head of Legal Services
Assistant Head of Finance
Central Finance Management Accountant

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Church Fund Schedule of Applications 2021/22– Meeting 4 (Appendix 1)

10. AUTHOR:

David Jarrett – Senior Accountant – Central Finance Business Support

11. CONTACT DETAILS

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WELSH CHURCH FUND - APPLICATIONS 2021/22
MEETING 4: 22nd July 2021

APPENDIX 1

	<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>ELECTORAL DIVISION</u>	<u>Signed by Councillor</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>DECISION</u>	<u>NATURE OF PROJECT REQUEST</u>	<u>PROJECT TOTAL COST</u>	<u>DATE Application Received</u>	<u>D of I*</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
	<u>NEW APPLICATIONS AWAITING DECISION</u>			£	£		£			
1	St Matthews Church, Monkswood	Llanbadoc	V.E.Smith	£2,000	£1,400	Funding assistance for an archaeological investigation of human remains following restoration work on the west wing of the church.	£2,950	29/06/21	No	The final stage restoration of the west wall of the church exposed human remains lying in a prone position within the foundations of the old medieval church, Professional excavation has been recommended before analysis and re-burial. The findings will provide more information hopefully into the settlement's early history.
2	United Reform Church	Llantilio Crossenny	R. Edwards	£1,000	£750	Funding required for repair of Church's Stain Glass windows	£17,708	03/07/21	No	The church is a listed building and so the stained glass windows are required to be maintained to a certain standard of repair
3	Caldicot Walking Football Club	Dewstow	T. Easson	£1,020	£320	Funding assistance required for football equipment to be used by the walking football club in increase mobility and diversity of the population of Caldicot	£1,020	13/07/21	No	This club was originally setup to reintroduce physically inactive adults back into sport. The club has grown and grown from 3 adults at our first sessions over 2 years ago to now 55 members. We have 2 mens team and a ladies team. The club has a massive impact not only on their physical health but their mental health as well. Some members have become great friends and the club has reinvigorated their social life.
	<i>Deferred Applications</i>									
	SUB TOTAL Meeting 4			£4,020	£2,470	OTHER INFORMATION :				
	MEETING	DATE	CABINET		AWARD					
	1	April 15th 2021	May 5th 2021		4,400					
	2	May 13th 2021	June 09th 2021		3,000					
	3	June 24th 2021	July 07th 2021		4,250					
	4	July 22nd 2021	Sept 01st 2021		2,470					
	5	Sept 23rd 2021	Oct 06th 2021		0					
	6	Nov 04th 2021	Dec 01st 2021		0					
	7	Dec 16th 2021	Jan 05th 2022		0					
	8	Jan 27th 2022	Mar 02nd 2022		0					
	9	Mar 10th 2022	April 06th 2022		0					
	TOTAL AWARDED FOR 2021/22 TO DATE				14,120					
	BUDGET 2021/22				34,440					
	BALANCE B/F TO 2021/22				£0					
	Monmouthshire's Allocation for 2021/22				£34,440					
	REMAINING BALANCE			£20,320						

*D of I = Declaration of Interest

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Integrated Impact Assessment document

(incorporating Equalities, Future Generations, Welsh Language and Socio Economic Duty)

Name of the Officer D Jarrett Phone no: 4657 E-mail: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal To assess the Grant Allocation Processes of the Welsh Church Fund for the meeting of the Welsh Church Fund Working Group on the 22 nd July 2021
Name of Service Finance	Date Future Generations Evaluation 22 nd July 2021

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Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Encouraging the socializing of differing age groups through social provision	No negative impact	
Disability	Proposal to assist in the provision of disabled facilities.	No negative impact	
Gender reassignment	No impact	No negative impact	

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	No negative impact	
Pregnancy or maternity	No impact	No negative impact	
Race	.No impact	No negative impact	
Religion or Belief	.Encouraging religion through education at the point of delivery through the provision of enhanced facilities	No negative impact	
Sex	No impact	No negative impact	
Sexual Orientation	.No Impact	No Negative impact	

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	N/A	No Negative impact	





3. Policy making and the Welsh language.


How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	N/A	No Negative impact	
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce	N/A	No Negative impact	
Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	N/A	No Negative impact	

4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	N/A	
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	N/A	
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	N/A	
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	N/A	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	N/A	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	N/A	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	N/A	

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	N/A	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	N/A	
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	N/A	
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	N/A	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<div data-bbox="123 284 324 534"></div> <div data-bbox="347 248 533 553">Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</div>	.N/A	

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Not applicable	.	
Corporate Parenting	Not applicable		

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

The evidence and data used for the assessment of each applicant to the Welsh Church Fund is supplied by the applicant upon submission of their application. The data and information supplied or subsequently requested is used to form the basis of the Committees' decision on whether to award a qualifying grant.

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

. The grant aid supports and highlights the positive effect that decisions the Welsh Church Fund Working Group have on the applicants funding requests from Voluntary Organisations, Local Community Groups, Individuals and Religious Establishments.
All awards are made in the belief that the funding is utilised for sustainable projects and cultural activities that benefit individuals, organisations, communities and their associated assets.
All grants are awarded within the Charitable Guidelines of the Trust

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9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Award grants	September 2021	Welsh Church Fund

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

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Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Cabinet	15th September	

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