

## **Equality and Future Generations Evaluation**

Name of the Officer completing the evaluation Richard Jones & Hazel Clatworthy  Phone no: 01633 740733  E-mail: richardjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal  To provide an overview of progress against the purpose and strategic aims set for the response phase of the Coronavirus pandemic and set a revised purpose as the council transitions into the recovery phase.
Name of Service area	Date
All services	18 <sup>th</sup> June 2020

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.

Describe any positive impacts your proposal	Describe any negative impacts your	What has been/will be done to mitigate
has on the protected characteristic	proposal has on the protected	any negative impacts or better contribute
	characteristic	to positive impacts?
Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Many of our aims are focused on the wellbeing of young people and older people which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular "To help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support".  We have provided access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave home, and created a contact center to proactively call shielded yulnerable people in our	Evidence has shown that older age is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.  The significant time away from school will have affected the learning trajectory of many learners and this is not likely to be a uniform impact with disadvantaged pupils likely to be impacted upon more significantly.  The pandemic could also impact on peoples mental health and feelings of loneliness.	We have provided digital technology and connectivity to pupils without access so they could continue to learn. On-line learning will continue to be an important part of pupils learning even when schools re-open.  In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home, and residential care, 24/7, we are regularly assessing the impacts of the virus and lockdown as it continues.
	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Many of our aims are focused on the wellbeing of young people and older people which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular "To help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support".  We have provided access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave	As on the protected characteristic  Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Many of our aims are focused on the wellbeing of young people and older people which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular "To help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support".  The significant time away from school will have affected the learning trajectory of many learners and this is not likely to be a uniform impact with disadvantaged pupils likely to be impacted upon more significantly.  We have provided access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave home, and created a contact center to pro-

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?
	communities to offer them food packages and check on their well-being.	Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Disability	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aim "To help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support" in particular is focused on supporting the wellbeing of people with disabilities.  We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support.  We have provided access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave home, and created a contact center to proactively call shielded vulnerable people in our communities to offer them food packages and check on their well-being.	Evidence has shown that certain underlying health conditions are associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.  The Coronavirus is likely to have a social impact on disabled people including effecting well-being, concerns about their health and access to health care and access to essentials.  It could also impact on disabled peoples mental health and feelings of loneliness.  Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.	In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home, and residential care, 24/7, we are regularly assessing the impacts of the virus and lockdown as it continues.  We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.  Part of this process was establishing lists of businesses delivering food supplies locally and supporting those providing cooked food/meals. We also provided access to emergency food parcels for shielded people who cannot leave home, and created a contact centre to pro-actively call shielded vulnerable people in our communities.  The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

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Gender reassignment	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion	None identified at this stage	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Marriage or civil partnership	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion	None identified at this stage	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Pregnancy or maternity	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	Pregnant women have been included in the list of people at moderate risk (clinically vulnerable) of COVID-19.	We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.  The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Race	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	Evidence has shown that ethnicity is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.  There has been a focus on understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups, including inequalities affecting BAME groups in the UK.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.  Respond to and implement recommendations for local government from the First Ministers BAME COVID-19 sub-group which will be released at the end of June.

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		Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.	
Religion or Belief	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	Under Coronavirus regulations in Wales Places of worship have been closed. They are now allowed to open for private prayer.  Places of worship play an important role in providing spiritual leadership for many individuals.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Sex	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	Evidence has shown that male sex is associated with greater risk of COVID-19.  The pandemic may have an impact on gender inequality, for example with childcare responsibilities.  Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Sexual Orientation	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	None identified at this stage	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Welsh Language	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.	The significant time away from school and classes will have affected the learning trajectory of many learners. Welsh language skills, particularly of pupils in welsh-medium	We have provided digital technology and connectivity to pupils without access so they could continue to learn. On-line learning will continue to be an important

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	The use of welsh language in service delivery will continue to be integral.	education, may be impacted as they may have limited opportunity to use the language at home particularly if no one in their home speaks welsh.	part of pupils learning even when schools re-open.  The learning of languages online has been reported as being popular during lockdown, with learning Welsh online seeing an increase in demand. The Council is considering how it can adjust the Welsh language learning provision it provides.  The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.
Poverty	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help.  We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support and have continued to deliver vital services to achieve this.  Hub schools have provide provision for vulnerable children. Arrangements have been put in place to maintain contact with all vulnerable learners, and work is continuing to develop support provisions for vulnerable children.	Analysis has shown the association between deprivation and the risk of COVID-19.  Economic disadvantage is also associated with other health risks such as obesity and, diabetes, which increase the risk of disease severity.  There is evidence that the economic impact of the virus disproportionately affects those working in lower-paid sectors, which can exacerbate issues of poverty and inequality. Those on lower incomes are less-likely to have access to technology and outdoor spaces.	Undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target pro-active responses such as commissioning of services.  As part of our continued commitment to Social Justice, there will be a further focus on reviewing the evidence and planning activity related to poverty in Monmouthshire. This includes to creation of two new posts dedicated to this work as agreed in a motion at Council on 4 <sup>th</sup> June.  We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.

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Characteristics	We have made free school meal payments directly to the families of eligible pupils  Shelter is being sourced and provided for homeless and vulnerable people in the county, helping to ensure their safety during this time  As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, we helped to coordinate community volunteering and support local food banks. There has been a huge response from residents to volunteer across Monmouthshire and these efforts have been integral in supporting those most in need in our communities during the pandemic.  We have continue to promote access to benefits, including spreading council tax payments over longer periods		, , ,

2. 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	COVID-19 will inevitably have a significant impact on the economy of Monmouthshire. We have been doing all that we can to help reduce the impact on local businesses through contacting local businesses advising them they were eligible for financial support, and paying grants to local businesses.	Officers from departments across council are working together with businesses to ensure that as regulations allow our town centers are able to re-open and businesses are able to restart, whilst ensuring the safety of staff and customers. An expression of interest has gone in to Welsh Government (WG) to seek funding to encourage active travel to continue, whilst allowing space for social distancing.
A resilient Wales  Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	Air quality has improved through the reduction of traffic, and people have become more aware of the wildlife around them. Wales Biodiversity Week has built on raising that awareness. One by product of redeploying grounds staff to waste has been a reduction in mowing and an increasing in wildflowers and pollinators.	Delaying the start of mowing and reducing the areas mown are going to be considered for adoption for the long term.  An expression of interest has gone in to WG to seek funding to encourage active travel to continue, whilst allowing space for social distancing.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	Saving lives and protecting health has been the number one driver through the pandemic, and this has shaped and informed service provision, PPE provision, new ways of working etc.  There has also been a recognition of the importance of mental well-being at this time, with measures such as the Digital Cwtch and the Go To Team for staff and important messages about mental health going out on social media.	Ongoing work will continue to focus on protecting health as lockdown measures gradually ease and things begin to reopen in line with legislation and guidance.  Work to encourage healthy modes of travel such as walking and cycling will continue to be developed in the short term through WG funding and for the longer term through our Active Travel programme.

	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
Well Being Goal	positive and negative impacts.	impacts?
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	There has been a huge response from residents to volunteer across Monmouthshire and these efforts have been integral in supporting those most in need in our communities during the pandemic.  One positive to emerge from the pandemic has been the level of community involvement and volunteering. The Community and partnerships team have had a key role to play in supporting this community activity.	Going forward, we will continue to further understand who is volunteering and what their drivers are, in order to understand how this support can be harnessed for the longer term. Our Monmouthshire digital platform has been relaunched and will provide a sustainable way of linking communities and building on our social capital.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Fewer people have been travelling by road or by air, which has had huge air quality benefits globally.  Waste and recycling collections continued throughout, and green waste collections have restarted and two Household Waste and Recycling Centres have reopened.	The Climate Emergency Working Group and Community Climate Champions are considering some of the many sustainability and climate change benefits that have come about as a result of lockdown, and are considering ways that these benefits could be continued for the longer term to reduce carbon.
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	Most of our heritage and cultural assets such as museums, libraries, leisure centres and visitor attractions have been forced to close due to the pandemic which is likely to have an impact on social and cultural well-being, including physical activity levels.  MonLife have used digital channels to continue to promote participation in physical activity.	Preparatory work is underway to ensure that once these services are able to reopen, they can do so safely.
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Much work has gone on to support more vulnerable people in our communities. This has included the Hub provision for vulnerable children, calls to shielded	The availability of provision for vulnerable children will continue as schools reopen. Vital social care services, including child protection, care at home and residential care, 7 days a week will continue.

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?
	groups, provision of emergency food parcels and free school meal payments.  Evidence has shown age, underlying health conditions and ethnicity, along with other factors, is associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19.  Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on these risks, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.	We will undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target proactive responses such as commissioning of services.  The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

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

	le Development rinciple	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?
Long Term	Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future	Whilst rapid, short term decisions have had to be made over recent months, consideration of the longer term has continued, for example through the prioritisation of maintaining our financial sustainability.	There is a recognition that COVID-19 will have a long term impact on our communities, and an understanding that all of our actions as we transition towards the recovery phase will need to think and plan for the long term.  Despite many challenges, efforts have resulted in new ways of doing things, some of which can form part of a lasting legacy of transformation with needs being met in new ways.
Collaboration	Working together with other partners to deliver objectives	We set a strategic aim of being a trusted partner for other agencies/organisations. Rapid working with multiple partners has been key to our COVID-19 response.  We have continued to work with our public sector partners via the Gwent Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG) to provide a joined up response across our area.	As measures are developed to transition towards helping our communities to begin to recover, this collaboration will continue to be key.
Involvement	Involving those with an interest and seeking their views	As demonstrated through the huge amount of volunteer effort, involvement of the wider community has been key to our response.  Members have had a number of member seminars and the restarting of Cabinet and Council has ensured that elected members have continued to be involved.	Our Monmouthshire will be a key tool to continuing to engage and involve our communities and volunteers.  Involvement remains important to our initiatives for example engagement with residents and business on Town centers reopening and as new initiatives are taken e.g. active travel submissions to WG, involvement and engagement of the community has been and will continue to be a central part of the way we work as an organisation.
Prevention	Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse	Preventing the spread of COVID-19 has been and continues to be the key driver of all that we do at this time.  Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

	Development sciple	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?
in w	Considering mpact on all vellbeing goals ogether and on other bodies	We are working closely with partners, businesses and communities to ensure that our actions protect people's health, whilst at the same time making sure that we think about impacts on our communities, environment, culture and economy.	The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

4. 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?

	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	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.	The Coronavirus pandemic will have an impact on economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County.	Undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target pro-active responses such as commissioning of services.
	Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help.  We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support and have continued to deliver vital services to achieve this.	There will be impact on those experiencing the impact of the pandemic where there will be additional issues around finances, the loss of employment and economic uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support and basic amenities alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself.	As part of our continued commitment to Social Justice, there will be a further focus on reviewing the evidence of the impact and learning of the coronavirus pandemic on the Council and county and plan activity accordingly related to greatest areas of need related to social justice in Monmouthshire.
		There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.	Specific programmes of work aimed at achieving the aims will have associated Future Generations evaluations where they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.

Safeguarding	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.  Safeguarding has remained an essential part of our delivery supporting adults and children in Monmouthshire.  Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help and safeguarding remains central to the authority's work, which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular "To help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support".	The pandemic has put families under increased strain and increased risks to vulnerable individuals at the same time as decreasing the visibility of children and adults at risk.  The impact of the lock-down has meant that harmful behaviours, abuse and neglect including domestic abuse can remain hidden and there is a risk child welfare concerns / adult at risk safeguarding concerns are not recognised or referred.  There will be pressure on families experiencing the impact of 'lock down' where there will be additional worries around finances, the loss of employment and economic uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support and basic amenities, access to education alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself.  There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans	Different solutions have been needed and implemented to deal with situations during the pandemic.  Continuing to extend safeguarding awareness and access to online /virtual training through these networks will provide some extra support in these times and potentially into the future.  In order to provide vital safeguarding services for all those who need them we are regularly assessing the impacts and risk of the virus and lockdown as it continues and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.
Corporate Parenting	Our purpose is we want everyone to feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help.	accordingly.  There will be pressure on families experiencing the impact of 'lock down' where there will be additional worries	Different solutions have been needed and implemented to deal with situations during the pandemic.
	Corporate Parenting has remained an essential part of our delivery.	around finances, the loss of employment and economic uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support	Continuing to extend awareness and access to online /virtual training and support will provide some extra support in these times
	Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help and corporate parenting remains essential.	and basic amenities, access to education, alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself.	and potentially into the future.  In order to fulfil vital corporate parenting responsibilities for all those who need them we are regularly assessing the impacts and

	Families who are caring for individuals with heightened or additional needs such as mental health issues, additional learning needs or disabilities may experience these pressures even more intensely.  There is a risk of possible disruption to Foster placements and/or carer recruitment and retention.  There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.	risk of the virus and lockdown as it continues and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.
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## 5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

Evidence generated locally, regionally, nationally and globally continues to be used to inform the delivery of the strategic aims and is reflected in this assessment.

Existing mechanisms such as the Public Service Board's (PSB) Well-being Assessment remains an important lens for understanding well-being in Monmouthshire. Harnessing the latest views, evidence and thinking on issues of importance to and in our communities is important to make sure that the aims remain relevant to the significant issues for well-being in Monmouthshire.

The data and evidence to better understand the Covid-19 virus is rapidly developing as is data, evidence and research on the well-being impact of the pandemic. There is still much to learn and understand, some of which will not become clearer until the longer term, although there is an ever expanding and continually developing evidence base that can be utilised.

6. 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 is an evaluation of the process of producing the strategic aims, rather than the more specific action that support them. Specific programmes of work aimed at achieving the aims will have associated Future Generations evaluations where they are brought to Cabinet or council for a decision.

The delivery of the aims is not without challenges and risks, they will continue to be monitored and will be flexible and adapt as evidence, circumstances and guidance changes.

7. 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
To support this work we will ensure we have the supporting structures and mechanisms in place to track our progress, assess impact and ensure we remain focussed on our purpose	Ongoing	Policy and Performance

8. 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.	Cabinet	1 July 2020	