

Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

Name of the Officer completing the evaluation	Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal
Richard Jones & Hazel Clatworthy	
	To endorse the Winter Strategy to guide the Council's activity through December
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Name of Service area	Date
All services	1 December 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.

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	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Many of our aims are focused on the wellbeing of young people and older people which is reflected in our strategic aims, in particular "Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded". We have continued to provide vital Adult and Children's social care	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. Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.	Schools have been assessing pupils on return in September to identify the support and intervention needed for pupils to continue to make accelerated progress and close gaps in learning. All schools have been progressing the delivery of a distance learning offer to their learners. To assist this, we have established digital learning technologies and approaches, which are being further developed into a blended learning approach going forward. In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child

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	All schools in Monmouthshire re-opened in September in line with Welsh Government guidance. We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.	characteristic	to positive impacts? protection, care at home, and residential care, we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as it continues. We have continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens. Some services are seeing an increase in demand that is putting pressure on services, particularly in adult's social care which continues to be managed. We are developing, with our public sector
			partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long-term benefit. 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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Our aim "Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded" in particular is focused on supporting the wellbeing of people with disabilities.	Evidence has shown that certain underlying health conditions are associated with greater risk and impact of COVID-19. The Coronavirus pandemic 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	In order to provide vital social care services for all those who need them, including child protection, care at home, and residential care we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as it continues. We have continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens. Some services are seeing an increase in demand that is putting pressure on services, particularly in adult's social care
		mental health and feelings of loneliness.	which continues to be managed.

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	We are committed to ensuring that every person or family in crisis that we are aware of receives support. We have continued to provide vital Adult and Children's social care. We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support.	Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk and helping those most vulnerable.	As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, evidence is being reviewed and activity related to poverty in Monmouthshire being planned. Modifications have continued to be made to support the safe operation of town centers, including making some adjustments to initial schemes based on feedback to ensure they are safe and accessible places for people with disabilities. 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.
Gender reassignment	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. 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.

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Marriage or civil partnership	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion	Coronavirus regulations have impacted on Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	The marriage and civil partnership service operated by the authority's Registrars service has provided the service, as permitted in adherence to the latest COVID-19 legislation and guidelines. 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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. 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.	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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. 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. Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk, utilise the evidence and help 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.

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Religion or Belief	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Our aims and associated activity will promote diversity and inclusion.	Under Coronavirus regulations places of worship have been closed for periods. 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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. 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.	As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills 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.
Sexual Orientation	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. 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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. The use of welsh language in service delivery will continue to be integral.	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 education, may be impacted as they may have limited opportunity to use the	Schools have been assessing pupils on return in September to identify the support and intervention needed for pupils to continue to make accelerated progress and close gaps in learning.

Protected	Describe any positive impacts your proposal	Describe any negative impacts your	What has been/will be done to mitigate
Characteristics	has on the protected characteristic	proposal has on the protected	any negative impacts or better contribute
Characteristics		characteristic	to positive impacts?
	All schools in Monmouthshire re-opened in September in line with Welsh Government guidance.	language at home particularly if no one in their home speaks welsh.	All schools have been progressing the delivery of a distance learning offer to their learners. To assist this, we have established digital learning technologies and approaches, which are being further developed into a blended learning approach going forward. 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
Poverty	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public 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. Schools have been assessing pupils on return in September to identify the support and	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	changes. Undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target pro-active responses. As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, evidence is being reviewed and activity related to poverty in Monmouthshire being planned. This includes to creation of two new posts dedicated to this work as agreed in a motion at Council on 4 th June. We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of

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	intervention needed for pupils to continue to make accelerated progress and close gaps in learning. 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. We have 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. As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills support.	have access to technology and outdoor spaces. There is evidence that the pandemic has a bigger impact on the well-being of those in more deprived communities. There is a risk that those already facing poverty and inequality will face a worsening situation due to increased financial hardship, health deterioration and a decline in educational attainment. Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on this risk, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.	help being coordinated with the offers of support. We are developing, with our public sector partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long-term benefit. New guidance seeks to extend our homelessness offer to provide suitable long term housing for all those accommodated in temporary housing. Plans are being explored to meet this requirement. 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.

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. This work and advice continues with each new phase of support and funding.	Officers from departments across council are working together with businesses to ensure that as regulations allow our town centers are able to operate safely, whilst ensuring the safety of staff and customers. Promoting the Shop Local, Shop Monmouthshire campaign. This was launched in the summer, and has been relaunched in the run up to Christmas after the firebreak, together with free weekend parking. We continue to administer payment of a range of financial support under each of the government grant schemes.
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 have been adopted for the long term. We were successful in obtaining funding to encourage active travel to continue, whilst allowing space for social distancing. Other active travel funding has also been secured.
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	Ongoing work will continue to focus on protecting health in line with the latest legislation and guidance. Work to encourage healthy modes of travel such as walking and cycling will continue to be developed in the

	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any
Well Being Goal	positive and negative impacts.	negative impacts or better contribute to positive
		impacts?
	Digital Cwtch and the Go To Team for staff and important	short term through WG funding and for the longer term
	messages about mental health going out on social media.	through our Active Travel programme.
		Making staff, residents and young people aware of the
		various mental health support that is available to them
		continues.
A Wales of cohesive communities	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.	Our Monmouthshire digital platform has been relaunched and will provide a sustainable way of linking communities and building on our social capital.
Communities are attractive, viable, safe and		We are about to launch, with our public sector partners,
well connected	One positive to emerge from the pandemic has been the	place based community support networks to work with
	level of community involvement and volunteering. The Community and partnerships team have had a key role to	community volunteers to identify local needs and issues and develop collaborative solutions.
	play in supporting this community activity.	and develop collaborative solutions.
	Fewer people have been travelling by road or by air, which has had huge air quality benefits globally.	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Data shows that compared with the same period last year, recycling rates are up and waste collected is down. A number of changes to service provision have been agreed which will help to ensure that these trends continue.	
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	Many of our heritage and cultural assets such as libraries, leisure centres and visitor attractions have been reopened in line with legislation in a Covid secure way, and services have been adjusted to find different ways of	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.

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?
	delivering the service, such as the Request and Collect service for the library. MonLife have continued to use digital channels to continue to promote participation in physical activity. Following the closure during the firebreak lockdown,	
	some of these services are now operating again in line with the latest legislation and guidance.	
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 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.	Vital social care services, including child protection, care at home and residential care will continue. We will undertake data modelling to identify communities at greatest risk and use this to target proactive responses. Public Services in Monmouthshire are agreeing a partnership approach to Tackling Poverty and Inequality.
	Our continuing response and recovery will need to focus on these risks, utilise the evidence and help those most vulnerable.	

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 also a recognition that dealing with how to manage the virus itself is not just a short term issue and is likely to impact on the way we deliver services for many months or even years.	There is a recognition that COVID-19 will have a long term impact on our communities, and an understanding that our actions will need to think and plan for the things we will be doing to mitigate the impact of the virus in the short term while continuing to focus on the things we need to have in place for long-term well-being and prosperity. Our Corporate Plan Annual Report and PSB Annual Report have both incorporated the impact of Covid 19 and next year's annual reports and further development of the Wellbeing Assessment will focus on what the longer term impacts of the pandemic have been in order to inform the next Wellbeing Plan.
Collaboration	Working together with other partners to deliver objectives	We set a strategic aim to keep our communities, our people and our partners safe and healthy. 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.	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. This collaboration will continue to be key in mitigating the impact of the virus in the short term and focusing on the things we need to have in place for long-term well-being and prosperity. The development of the new Community Support Networks will formalise a place based approach to partnership working.
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. The development of Community Support Networks aims to build on that social capital.	Our Monmouthshire will be a key tool to continuing to engage and involve our communities and volunteers. The development of the new Community Support Networks will be key to building on community involvement in our communities.

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?	
		Members have had a number of member seminars and the restarting of democratic meetings has ensured that elected members have continued to be involved.	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	Reducing 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 to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public 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.	
Integration	Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together 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	Describe any negative impacts your	What will you do/ have you done to
	has	proposal has	mitigate any negative impacts or better
			contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	Our purpose is to protect your health, your	The Coronavirus pandemic will have an	As part of our continued commitment to
	employment, your community and your public	impact on economic, social, environmental	Social Justice, there is a further focus on
	services.	and cultural well-being of the County.	reviewing the evidence of the impact and
			learning of the coronavirus pandemic on
	Many of our aims are focused on supporting	There will be impact on those experiencing	the Council and county and plan activity
	those who need help.	the impact of the pandemic where there will	accordingly related to greatest areas of
		be additional issues around finances, the	need related to social justice in
		loss of employment and economic	Monmouthshire.

	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. Schools have been assessing pupils on return in September to identify the support and intervention needed for pupils to continue to make accelerated progress and close gaps in	uncertainty, poor housing or over-crowding, not having access to support and basic amenities alongside the risks and concerns around the virus itself. There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.	We established the Community Action Volunteer Team (CAVT) to assist offers of help being coordinated with the offers of support. We are developing, with our public sector partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long- term benefit.
	learning. 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.		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.
	As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills support.		
Safeguarding	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Safeguarding has remained an essential part of our delivery supporting adults and children in	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.	Through the Coronavirus pandemic Safeguarding remains an essential part of our delivery supporting adults and children in Monmouthshire. Arrangements have been adjusted, where required, different solutions have been needed to deal with
	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	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.	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.

	'Ensure all vulnerable young people and adults are safeguarded'	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.	In order to provide vital safeguarding services for all those who need them we are regularly assessing the impacts of the pandemic as restrictions change and social distancing continues and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.
		There is a need to continue to understand the impact and adapt/develop plans accordingly.	There has been a significant volunteer response to Covid-19 pandemic, work will be required to continue to support an increased volunteer network and ensure longer term arrangements are in place including support on their safeguarding responsibilities.
Corporate Parenting	Our purpose is to protect your health, your employment, your community and your public services. Corporate Parenting has remained an essential part of our delivery. Many of our aims are focused on the supporting those who need help and corporate parenting remains essential.	There will be pressure on families experiencing the impact of the pandemic 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. 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.	Arrangements have been adjusted, where required, different solutions have been needed to deal with situations during the pandemic. Continuing to extend awareness and access to online /virtual training and support will provide some extra support in these times 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 of the pandemic as restrictions change and social distancing continues and adapting/developing arrangements accordingly.

	There is a need to continue to the impact and adapt/develop 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 focused on our purpose	Ongoing	Policy and Performance Team

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	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
No.			
1.	Cabinet	16 December 2020	