



monmouthshire  
sir fynwy

## Integrated Impact Assessment document

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

<b>Name of the Officer</b> completing the evaluation Kate Stinchcombe  <b>Phone no:</b> 01633644684 <b>E-mail:</b> katestinchcombe@monmouthshire.gov.uk	<b>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</b> To seek Cabinet approval of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monmouthshire Local Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) Part 1: Strategy,</li><li>• Monmouthshire's Green Infrastructure Strategy Volumes 1&amp;2, which together set out the Council's statutory duties, responsibilities and associated actions for delivery</li></ul>
<b>Name of Service area:</b> Green Infrastructure	<b>Date:</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025

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 outcomes of Green Infrastructure creation and enhancement include benefits to people of all ages including the older and younger members of our community who are most vulnerable to the detrimental effects of climate change. Elements of the NRAP and GI strategy to be implemented by MCC are predominantly grant funded. Positive impacts on protected characteristics are typically requirements of this funding delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A

<b>Protected Characteristics</b>	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
Disability	The outcomes of Green Infrastructure creation and enhancement are disability inclusive.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Gender reassignment	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Marriage or civil partnership	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Pregnancy or maternity	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Race	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Religion or Belief	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A

<b>Protected Characteristics</b>	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
Sex	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	N/A
Sexual Orientation	Underserved groups, as identified in our HIA, are target for involvement and engagement in GI delivery.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on protected characteristics.	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.

	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.</b>	<b>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
<b>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</b>	This decision will not have any adverse impacts on those at socio-economic disadvantage. Social inclusion is an outcome of GI delivery. The GI approach promotes free access to green spaces and nature meaning health and wellbeing benefits are available to everyone regardless of their income. Underserved groups are target for involvement and engagement in Green Infrastructure delivery	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan on socio-economic duty and social justice.	N/A

### 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
<b>Policy Making</b>  Effects on the use of the Welsh language,  Promoting Welsh language  Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	All communications and project materials including signage and interpretation are prepared bilingually. Promotion of species and habitat names in welsh through communications increases the vocabulary of english speakers, welsh learners and welsh speakers.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan	N/A
<b>Operational</b>  Recruitment & Training of workforce	Welsh language skills are identified as desirable on relevant post adverts. Training is available and encouraged.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan.	N/A
<b>Service delivery</b>  Use of Welsh language in service delivery  Promoting use of the language	All communications and project materials including signage and interpretation are prepared bilingually.  Promotion of species and habitat names in welsh through communications increases the vocabulary of english speakers, welsh learners and welsh speakers.	There are no negative impacts of the Strategy or Plan	N/A




**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!


<b>Well Being Goal</b>	<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</b>	<b>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	The action plans directly contribute to the Prosperous Wales vision of a low carbon society and action on climate change. There is the potential for green skills to be developed.	None
<b>A resilient Wales</b> Maintain and enhance biodiversity and land, river and coastal ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	The action plans contribute to more sustainable management of green spaces and includes measures which will build resilience of ecosystems and assist nature recovery.	None
<b>A healthier Wales</b> People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	Green Infrastructure will improve air quality and increasing walking and cycling will improve physical and mental health.	None
<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Many of the actions will involve working closely with local communities to produce local community benefits. Green Infrastructure including cycling and walking routes should increase connectivity between communities, particularly for those without a car.	None
<b>A globally responsible Wales</b> Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Activities to raise awareness of the climate and nature emergency in a local settings can contribute to community behaviour change and wider impacts on lifestyle and consumer choices i.e. think global act local.	None
<b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People	Welsh language will be used for all Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery communications in line with the Welsh Language measure. The GI	None

<b>Well Being Goal</b>	<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</b>	<b>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	approach promotes connectedness to nature through nature based solutions as part of the welsh culture and heritage.	
<b>A more equal Wales</b> People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery delivery involves work with stakeholders, community groups, individuals of all ages and all backgrounds, to help us achieve our ambitions	None

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

<b>Sustainable Development Principle</b>	<b>Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.</b>	<b>Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	The Nature Recovery Action Plan and GI Strategy consider outcomes and benefits for the long term. The nature of green infrastructure delivery e.g. walking and cycling routes, tree planting and nature based solutions, have a legacy following initial delivery including supporting wellbeing, storing carbon and water, providing habitats for species. Whilst the plans have long term benefits, we are reliant on short term grant funding. However, alternative funding mechanisms e.g. green finance are being explored.	None

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>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>Many of the actions in the GI Strategy and NRAP are being delivered through collaboration, both with community groups, and other regional stakeholders e.g. Natural Resources Wales.</p>	<p>None</p>
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The strategy and action plans have been through Scrutiny and public consultation. We will continue to involve stakeholders through the delivery of the GI Strategy and Nature Recovery Action Plans, for example Local Nature Partnership, town and community councils, community groups and individuals.</p>	<p>None</p>
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>Prevention is at the core of the Strategy and NRAP. Identifying our Green Infrastructure, habitats and species and establishing ways to maintain and promote ecosystem resilience to prevent further loss and reverse decline.</p>	<p>None</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>There is great benefit from working in a collaborative, integrated and joined-up way to deliver GI through a multi-disciplinary approach. The Strategy sets out Monmouthshire County Council's approach to the planning, management and delivery of Green Infrastructure (GI) focussed around the following strategic objectives and priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> <li>• Enhance Biodiversity &amp; Increase Ecosystem Resilience</li> <li>• Support Climate &amp; Nature Resilience</li> <li>• Strengthen Landscape Character &amp; Distinctiveness</li> <li>• Support Sustainable Economic Development.</li> </ul> <p>In doing so, the GI Strategy will help contribute to the delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement Local Development Plan</li> <li>• MCC Community and Corporate Plan</li> <li>• MCC Climate and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plans</li> <li>• MCC Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Forward Plan and Action Plan</li> <li>• MCC Nature Recovery Action Plan</li> <li>• Public Service Board Wellbeing Plans.</li> </ul>	<p>None</p>

**5. 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	There are no safeguarding implications	None	There are no impacts on safeguarding.
Corporate Parenting	There are no corporate safeguarding implications.	None	There are no impacts on corporate parenting.

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

Evidence for the urgency to take action to tackle climate change has come from numerous IPCC reports, such as:  
<https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

Local information about nature and wellbeing has come from reports such as:

- Wellbeing Assessment, 3rd UK Climate Change Risk Assessment,
- Wales State of Nature Report, 2023,
- Greater Gwent State of Nature report 2021
- Greater Gwent Nature Recovery Action Plan 2022
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Section 8 Habitats and Species of Principle Importance for Nature Conservation in Wales
- Results of the 2024 public consultation for GI Strategy and Nature Recovery Action Plan
- Monmouthshire's Countryside Access Improvement Plan
- Monmouthshire Draft Landscape character Supplementary Planning Guidance 2017
- Monmouthshire Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance 2015
- Report on use of integrated Health Impact Assessment (iHIA)

## 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 Green Infrastructure Strategy and Nature Recovery Action Plan have significant positive contributions to make to the Wellbeing Goals. In particular a Healthier Wales through health and wellbeing opportunities through projects and partnerships, well connected multifunctional green spaces and community growing initiatives. There are also benefits for a Resilient Wales, based on supporting nature-based solutions for land management, raised awareness through training and education of the nature crisis and working in partnership to deliver landscape scale projects to support resilient ecological networks. There is also significant potential to contribute to Cohesive Communities, by working collaboratively and in partnership with our communities. Finally contributing to a Globally Responsible Wales through sustainable use of natural resources to support Monmouthshire's local green economy and develop skills and learning. There are no negative impacts on the Well-being Goals.

There are no significant positive or negative impacts on the protected characteristics, safeguarding or corporate parenting. The principles of Long term, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration and Involvement have been used throughout the development of the Action Plans.

**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
<b>N/A</b>		

**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
<b>1</b>	Business Cabinet	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	<i>More reference to use of the integrated Health Impact Assessment (see also appendix 6 of Cabinet Report)</i>
<b>2</b>	Cabinet	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	