

Name of the Officer completing the evaluation	Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal
Kate Thompson	Health and Safety Annual Report 2024/25
Phone no: 07792 558027 E-mail: Katethompson@monmouthshire.gov.uk	To consider and approve the Council's Annual Health and Safety Report for 2024/25.
Name of Service area Corporate Health and Safety	Date January 2026

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.

<u>Protected Characteristics</u>	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 <i>Consider the impact on our community in relation to age, e.g. how do we engage with older and younger people about our services, access issues etc. Also consider what issues there are for employment and training.</i>	Effective health and safety management promotes safe working environments for all age groups and supports tailored risk management for young workers.	None	

<u>Protected Characteristics</u>	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 <i>Consider the impact and what issues there are around each of the disability needs groups e.g. access to buildings/services, how we provide services and the way we do this; producing information in alternative formats, employment issues etc.</i>	Effective health and safety management ensures reasonable adjustments and accessible work environments. Emphasises risk assessments for those with additional needs.	None	
Gender reassignment <i>Consider the provision of inclusive services for transgender people and groups. Also consider what issues there are for employment and training.</i>	Effective health and safety management supports fair treatment and inclusive workplace practices.	None	
Marriage or civil partnership <i>Same-sex couples registered as civil partners have the same rights as married couples and must be provided with the same benefits, such as survivor pensions, flexible working, maternity/paternity pay and healthcare insurance. Consider the impact of your proposal on these rights.</i>	Health and safety policies apply equally to all staff.	None	

<u>Protected Characteristics</u>	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 <i>A woman is protected from discrimination during her pregnancy, maternity leave and 26 weeks from the day she gives birth. Including the provision of services, goods and facilities and recreational or training facilities. Consider the impact of your proposal on these protections.</i>	Ensures risk assessments and appropriate adjustments are in place to protect new and expectant mothers.	None	
Race <i>What will the proposal do to promote race equality with the aim of eliminating unlawful discrimination, promoting equality of opportunity and promoting good relations between different racial groups. Think about the potential to affect racial groups differently. Possible issues include providing translation/interpreting services, cultural issues and customs, access to services, issues relating to Asylum Seeker, Refugee, Gypsy & Traveler, migrant communities and recording of racist incidents etc.</i>	Health and safety information and training are provided inclusively and resources can be sourced in a range of languages	None	
Religion or Belief <i>Consider the impact e.g. dietary issues, religious holidays or days associated with religious observance, cultural issues and customs. Also consider what issues there are for employment and training.</i>	A flexible approach to health and safety management ensures inclusive participation.	None	

<u>Protected Characteristics</u>	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 <i>Consider what issues there are for men and women. Will this impact disproportionately on one group more than another e.g. equal pay, responsibilities for dependents, issues for carers, access to training, employment issues.</i>	Effective health and safety management ensures equal protection for male and female employees in all work environments.	None	
Sexual Orientation <i>Consider the provision of inclusive services for e.g. older and younger people from the Lesbian, Gay and Bi-sexual communities. Also consider what issues there are for employment and training.</i>	Effective health and safety management promotes an inclusive culture with no discrimination in health and safety processes.	None	

2. The Socio-economic Duty

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.

Socio-economic disadvantage can be defined as living in less favorable social and economic circumstances than others in society. It also includes social justice, which is about reducing inequalities by working towards more equal distribution of wealth and opportunities so everyone can achieve their full potential.

Consider how the proposal could affect the following vulnerable groups:

Armed Forces Community (including veterans)

Single parents

Vulnerable families

Single adult households

Carers

Students

People living in the most deprived areas

Pensioners

Homeless People

People misusing substances

People who have experienced the asylum system

People involved in the criminal justice system

<u>Socio-economic Duty</u>	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 from socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts in relation to the Socio-economic disadvantage?
<i>Think of what evidence you have about socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to this proposal. Will it impact disproportionately on certain groups? Can the proposals be improved to reduce inequalities of outcome?</i>	Effective health and safety management supports fair treatment and safe conditions for all employees including those on lower incomes, or in higher risk front line roles. This contributes positively to reducing inequality of outcomes associated with socio economic disadvantage.	None	

3. Policy making and the Welsh language

What are the effects that the proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated? Explain how you believe the proposals could be improved so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English 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
<p>Policy Making: <i>Consider what impact this policy decision will have on the Welsh Language. This includes opportunities for people to use the language, opportunities to promote the language and treating the language no less favourably than the English language. Include any data and evidence e.g. WESP, Census Data, Cymraeg 2050, Welsh Language Strategy.</i></p>	N/A		
<p>Operational: Recruitment & Training of workforce <i>Carefully consider whether vacant posts require Welsh language skills as a desirable or essential skill. This is especially pertinent with front line roles as more than 10 % of the population of Monmouthshire speak Welsh. Also, when assessing the need for Welsh language skills keep in mind the existing Welsh language skills within the workforce. In service areas where there is a current lack of Welsh language skills, posts should be advertised as Welsh language essential. Additionally, consider where further training may be needed to increase the number of staff who can speak Welsh and to enhance the skills of current Welsh speakers.</i></p>	N/A		
<p>Service Delivery: Use of Welsh language in service delivery <i>When advertising our services you must promote the fact that people can deal with the council in Welsh by</i></p>	N/A		

phone, email, twitter, Facebook, letters, forms, website transactions etc.			
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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!

<u>Well Being Goals</u>	Describe the positive impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	Describe the negative impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales <i>An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises global limits and uses resources efficiently (including acting on climate change); a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides jobs.</i>	A safer healthier workforce supports higher productivity and reduced sickness absence. Promotes effective service delivery and sustainable employment.	None	
A resilient Wales <i>Maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</i>	Encourages a culture of prevention and resilience within the workforce, reducing environmental and operational risks. Organisations that manage risks well are better prepared for emergencies or unexpected hazards.	None	
A healthier Wales <i>People's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</i>	Directly contributes by reducing workplace injury and illness, promoting physical and mental health and supporting staff wellbeing initiatives.	None	

<u>Well Being Goals</u>	Describe the positive impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	Describe the negative impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A Wales of cohesive communities <i>Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</i>	Promotes safe environments in schools, community spaces and public settings enhancing trust in local services and confidence in local services.	None	
A globally responsible Wales <i>Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</i>	Embeds ethical and responsible practices through safe, sustainable and well governed operations.	None	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language <i>Promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and participation in the arts, and sports and recreation</i>	<p>Although health and safety may seem mainly about compliance and accident prevention, it plays a deep supporting role in nurturing culture and language by:</p> <p>Creating safe environments for cultural participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Festivals, community events, museums, theatres and heritage sites depend on robust health and safety management to operate safely. When people feel safe at cultural gatherings they are more likely to participate and engage. Effective health and safety management ensures these events run smoothly, inclusively and without unnecessary risk, helping cultural expression thrive. <p>Protecting the workforce in cultural and creative sectors</p>	None	

<u>Well Being Goals</u>	Describe the positive impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	Describe the negative impacts the proposal has on the wellbeing goal.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many people work in arts, tourism and heritage, sectors that are vital to Wales's cultural identity. Good health and safety practices protect these workers ensuring sustainable careers and the continuation of Welsh cultural industries. 		
A more equal Wales <i>People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances. (This includes the protected characteristics listed in Section 1 above. You can add more detail there. Don't forget to think about the impacts on poverty)</i>	Ensures all employees and service users regardless of protected characteristics have equitable access to safe workplaces and services.		

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

<u>Sustainable Development Principles</u>	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><i>We are required to look beyond the usual short term timescales for financial planning and political cycles and instead plan with the longer term in mind (guidance says at least 10 years, but preferably 25)</i></p>	<p>Health and safety management supports the long term health and wellbeing of staff, service users and communities by reducing preventable accidents, ill health and associated costs. Encourages sustained improvements in safety culture.</p>	
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>Annual report developed collaboratively with Directorates, HR, Insurance and our occupational health provider. Promotes shared responsibility for health and safety across all service areas.</p>	

<u>Sustainable Development Principles</u>	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?
 Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views <i>Who are the stakeholders who will be affected by your proposal? Have they been involved? Do those people reflect the diversity of the area which is served?</i>	Effective health and safety management engages employees, managers and service users through training, consultation and feedback mechanisms to shape safer working practices and support a positive safety culture.	
 Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse	Effective health and safety management focuses on proactive management of risks through improved monitoring training and early intervention. Helps prevent harm, sickness absence and operational disruption.	
 Integration Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies <i>Focus here on how you will better integrate the Wellbeing Goals impacts on people, economy and environment described above and balance any competing impacts. Think about impacts the proposal may have on other organisations</i>	Effective health and safety management aligns health, safety and wellbeing objectives with the Council's Corporate Plan, Workforce strategy and Wellbeing objectives. Contributing to an effective and resilient organization.	

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting, Care Leavers, Care Experienced People 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 <i>Safeguarding in this context applies to children (not yet reached 18th birthday) and adult at risk (identified as a person over the age of 18 and who (a) is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect, (b) has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs), and (c) as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.) Safeguarding is about ensuring that everything is in place to promote the well-being of children and adults at risk, preventing them from being harmed and protecting those who are at risk of abuse and neglect.</i>	<p>Effective health and safety management: is a cornerstone of safeguarding in that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates safe environments • Promotes a culture of care and accountability • Supports staff training and awareness • Ensures safe recruitment and supervision • Promotes wellbeing and inclusion • Promotes effective record keeping and risk assessment 	None	

<p><u>Corporate Parenting, Care Leavers and Care Experienced People</u></p> <p><i>This relates to those children who are 'looked after' by the Local Authority either through voluntary arrangements with their parents or through a Court Order. The Council has a corporate duty to consider 'children who are looked after especially and to promote their welfare (in a way, as though those children were their own). It also relates to care experienced people (people who have spent time in care when they were under 18 years old). The Council must consider how to help overcome the disadvantages and discrimination they experience.</i></p>	<p>Effective health and safety management ensures environments, such as residential homes, schools, workplaces or community spaces are physically and psychologically safe.</p>	
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7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

This will include your baseline position, measures and studies that have informed your thinking and the recommendation you are making. It should allow you to identify whether any changes resulting from the implementation of the recommendation have had a positive or negative effect. Key strategies and documents that may help you include: Community and Corporate Plan, Asset Management Strategy, Digital and Data Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, People Strategy, Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy: [Enabling Strategies](#) See Guidance for more examples.

This is only the Council's second Annual Health and Safety Report and the first to be presented to elected members. It provides a baseline position against which future performance can be compared.

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 section should summarise the key issues arising from the evaluation. This summary must be included in the Committee Report Template

Effective management of health and safety has positive impacts across all well-being goals and protected groups. It strengthens the Council's ability to safeguard staff and communities, prevent harm and promote equality, well-being and long-term sustainability.

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?

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Integrated Impact Assessment 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 e.g. budget mandate, DMT, SLT, Scrutiny, Cabinet etc	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	Governance and Audit Committee	October 2025	None
	Performance and Overview Committee	November 2025	None

