

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

October 2018

THE COUNCIL'S EQUALITIES STATEMENT

This Council recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and we will work actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within and between our communities, residents, elected members, job applicants and workforce.

We will also work to create equal access for everyone to our services, irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality, responsibility for any dependents or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

The Council is required to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Act explains that having due regard for advancing equality involves:

- removing or minimising disadvantages experienced by people due to their protected characteristics
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people
- encouraging people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The protected characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Re-assignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion, Belief or Non-Belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Welsh Language*

* The Welsh language is not identified as a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, however in Wales we also have to treat Welsh and English on an equal basis as well as promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language.

Further advice on completing impact assessments can be found on the equalities pages of Corporate Policy Unit Portal.

THE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

NAME OF NEW OR REVISED PROPOSAL*	Cease the Community Safety Warden Service
DIRECTORATE	Communities
SERVICE AREA	Public Protection Division
CONTACT OFFICER	Ceri Edwards – Environmental Health Manager
DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW OR REVISION	Following the Council Budget Setting Meeting

***Throughout this Equalities Impact Assessment Form, ‘proposal’ is used to refer to what is being assessed, and therefore includes policies, strategies, functions, procedures, practices, initiatives, projects and savings proposals.**

The aim of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is to ensure that Equalities and Welsh Language issues have been proactively considered throughout the decision making processes governing work undertaken by every service area in the Council as well as work done at a corporate level.

The Council’s work across Equalities, Welsh Language and Human Rights is covered in more detail through the [Equalities and Welsh Language Objectives and Action Plan 2016-2020](#).

When carrying out an EIA you should consider both the positive and negative consequences of your proposals. If a project is designed for a specific group e.g. disabled people, you also need to think about what potential effects it could have on other areas e.g. young people with a disability, BME people with a disability.

There are a number of supporting guidance documents available on the [Corporate Policy Unit Portal](#) and the Council’s Equalities and Welsh Language team can provide advice as the EIA is being developed. Please note that the team does not write EIAs on behalf of service areas, the support offered is in the form of advice, suggestions and in effect, quality control.

Contact equalities@caerphilly.gov.uk for assistance.

PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSAL

1	<p>What is the proposal intended to achieve? <i>(Please give a brief description and outline the purpose of the new or updated proposal by way of introduction.)</i></p> <p>The savings proposal is to cease the Community Safety Warden (CSW) service creating a saving of circa £355,000.</p> <p>The team comprises 10 Community Safety Wardens equating to 9.5 FTE posts. The Supervisor is on grade 8 and the rest of the team on grade 6. In April 2017, 2 posts became vacant. These posts are currently being covered by temporary fixed term appointments. In October 2018, the 0.5 FTE resigned and the post is currently vacant. As such, 9 FTE officers (2 FTE fixed term) remain in post.</p>
2	<p>Who are the service users affected by the proposal? <i>(Who will be affected by the delivery of this proposal? e.g. staff members, the public generally, or specific sections of the public i.e. youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits etc. Are there any data gaps?)</i></p> <p>The service provides a uniformed patrolling presence in communities dealing with low level crime and anti-social behaviour. Each officer is authorised by the Chief Constable of Gwent Police with powers that include traffic management and the issue of Police penalty notices. The service works very closely with the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams tackling issues in communities ranging from youth annoyance and disorder, persons under the influence of substances, enviro crime issues, defects in infrastructure, dog fouling and littering etc.</p> <p>On their early shifts Community Safety Wardens (CSWs) tend to be involved in the community engagement element of the role as much as in enforcement. In particular, visiting local residents to discuss complaints around, street drinking and enviro-crime issues and meeting with partners in relation to community events.</p> <p>On later shifts CSWs proactively and reactively address anti-social behaviour, disorder, and street drinking. Additionally CSWs support high profile events across the borough e.g. The Big Cheese and Remembrance Day parades/services.</p> <p>For the 2017-2018 Financial Year the Community Safety Warden Service carried out 3392 patrols. Words of advice to persons acting contrary to acceptable standards of behaviour were given on 1386 occasions. There were 347 interactions with Council Members via meetings, phone calls etc. Formal verbal warnings were given on 77 occasions. 112 items of alcohol were confiscated and 8 referrals for Anti-social behaviour Injunction consideration were made. 342 referrals were made to other departments/agencies to resolve problems in communities.</p> <p>The service users affected will differ depending on the nature of their involvement</p>

	with the team. Residents in general will be affected by the proposals and in particular those impacted by anti-social behaviour.
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IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

3	Does the proposal ensure that everyone has an equal access to all the services available or proposed, or benefits equally from the proposed changes, or does not lose out in greater or more severe ways due to the proposals?
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(What has been done to examine whether or not these groups have equal access to the service, or whether they need to receive the service in a different way from other people?)

The service is universal in that it supports all residents of the county borough and local businesses.

4	Is your proposal going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? <i>(Has the service delivery been examined to assess if there is any indirect effect on any groups? Could the consequences of the policy or savings proposal differ dependent upon people's protected characteristics?)</i>	
Protected Characteristic	Positive, Negative, Neutral	Relevance of the Policy or Practice
Age	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to protecting every member of society; however they pay particular attention to those with protected characteristics. E.g. by assisting older people with road closure arrangements during Remembrance Day Events. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social behaviour that impact on older people. CSWs will often be involved in interventions for children and young people when addressing issues of anti-social behaviour. CSWs takes steps to address underage drinking in public places and clearly this activity relates to children and young people.
Disability	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social/hate behaviour that impact on disabled people.
Gender Reassignment	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. They also provide patrols and visits for those at threat of hate crimes including trans-gender people.
Marriage & Civil Partnership	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social/hate behaviour that impact on same sex partnerships.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral	
Race	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social behaviour and hate crime associated with racial abuse.
Religion & Belief	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social behaviour and hate crime associated with religious beliefs.

Sex	Neutral	
Sexual Orientation	Negative	The CSWs are tasked with providing re-assurance and protection to every member of society; however they pay particular attention to protecting those with protected characteristics. E.g. by intervening in cases of anti-social behaviour or hate crime associated with sexual orientation.

5	<p>In line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. (No.1) Regulations 2015, please note below what effects, if any (whether positive or adverse), the proposal would have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.</p> <p><i>(The specific Policy Making Standards requirements are Standard numbers 88, 89, 90, 91, 92 and 93. The full detail of each Standard is available on the Corporate Policy Unit Portal. Although it is important that what is outlined in the proposal is available in Welsh and English, please consider wider impacts on Welsh speakers.)</i></p> <p>The proposals do not impact on the use of the Welsh language.</p>
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INFORMATION COLLECTION

6	<p>Please outline any evidence and / or research you have collected which supports the proposal? This can include an analysis of service users. <i>(Is this service effectively engaging with all its potential users or is there higher or lower participation of uptake by one or more protected characteristic groups? If so, what has been done to address any difference in take up of the service? Does any savings proposal include an analysis of those affected?)</i></p> <p>In 2016 26.9% of people in the county borough aged 16-64 were disabled as defined by the Equalities Act. In the 2011 Census 97.6% of the population are identified as English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British. 50.7 are identified as being of Christian religion with 48.32% identified as having no religion or religion not stated. 50.95% of the population of the county borough were female and 49.05% male. Any feedback from the budget engagement process will be used to improve our understanding.</p>
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CONSULTATION

7	<p>Please outline the consultation / engagement process and outline any key findings. <i>(Include method of consultation, objectives and target audience. What steps have been taken to ensure that people from various groups have been consulted during the development of this proposal? Have you referred to the Equalities Consultation and Monitoring Guidance?)</i></p> <p>The proposal is contained in the MTFP and as such will be subject to the Budget engagement process.</p>
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MONITORING AND REVIEW

8	<p>How will the proposal be monitored? <i>(What monitoring process has been set up to assess the extent that the service is being used by all sections of the community, or that the savings proposals are achieving the intended outcomes with no adverse impact? Are comments or complaints systems set up to record issues by Equalities category to be able analyse responses from particular groups?)</i></p> <p>The most readily recognisable monitoring of these proposals post-implementation will be in any increase in complaints about anti-social behaviour, lack of patrolling</p>
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	<p>presence, and potentially additional demand on the Police their response times.</p> <p>Complaints will follow the Corporate Complaints process and any that contain allegations of discrimination are also referred to the Equalities and Welsh Language team.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>How will the monitoring be evaluated? <i>(What methods will be used to ensure that the needs of all sections of the community are being met?)</i></p> <p>Feedback and complaints will be assessed to consider whether any particular service users are disadvantaged over others.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Have any support / guidance / training requirements been identified? <i>(Has the EIA or consultation process shown a need for awareness raising amongst staff, or identified the need for Equalities or Welsh Language training of some sort?)</i></p> <p>None identified.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>If any adverse impact has been identified, please outline any mitigation action.</p> <p>Need to consider in the light of impacts identified in section 4.</p> <p>The public will need to contact other services including Gwent Police regarding issues of anti-social behaviour and hate crime etc.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>What wider use will you make of this Equality Impact Assessment? <i>(What use will you make of this document i.e. as a consultation response, appendix to approval reports, publicity etc. in addition to the mandatory action shown below?)</i></p> <p>This EIA will be used as supporting evidence in the decisions being made around this savings proposal.</p>

13	<p>An equality impact assessment may have four possible outcomes, through more than one may apply to a single proposal. Please indicate the relevant outcome(s) of the impact assessment below.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Please tick as appropriate:</p> <p>No major change – the impact assessment demonstrated that the proposal was robust; there was no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Adjust the proposal – the impact assessment identified potential problems or missed opportunities. The proposal was adjusted to remove barriers or better promote equality. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Continue the proposal – the impact assessment identified the potential problems or missed opportunities to promote equality. The justification(s) for continuing with it have been clearly set out. (The justification must be included in the impact assessment and must be in line with the duty to have due regard. Compelling reasons will be needed for the most important relevant proposals.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Stop and remove the proposal – the impact assessment identified actual or potential unlawful discrimination. The proposal was stopped and removed, or changed. <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Completed by:	Ceri Edwards
Date:	12 th November 2018
Position:	Environmental Health Manager
Name of Head of Service:	Rob Hartshorn