

Working Together for a Better Swansea

Developing and Using our Integrated Impact Assessment Tool

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City and County of Swansea
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Overview

- History of the tool
- Where we are now
- Lessons learnt
- Moving forward



The need

- 2011 - Better Swansea Partnership Annual Report highlighted the need for an annual assessment of the improvement made in the way key plans address cross cutting issues.
- An 'integrated' assessment tool preferred
- Community Plan Policy Task Group and Healthy Cities Initiative decided to develop an Integrated Impact Assessment tool.



The challenge was to design a tool which:



Cross cutting themes:

- Health and wellbeing
- Prosperity
- Learning
- Environment
- Community
- Best Practise





The Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Toolkit



What is the Integrated Toolkit?
 The toolkit was designed to help organisations to align their policies with the values of WHO Healthy Cities Network. The criteria have been developed from the Key Partnership Strategies in Swansea, World Health Organisation Healthy Cities Network and the Welsh Governments Sustainable Development Scheme.

Who should use it?
 The toolkit is intended to be used by local authority members and their partners. However it can be used by any organisation wanting to demonstrate their commitment to cross-sector issues.

The toolkit is designed to help you think about the impact of a policy adopted by the your organisation so that you can make sure your policy or project is contributing in the round to meeting the needs of our community.

When should it be used?
 The toolkit should be used in the development and implementation of local and regional strategic activities. It should help to facilitate dialogue, generate new ideas and encourage 'joined-up' working.

City and County of Swansea was designated a Healthy City in 2010. The aim of the network is to improve the health of the local population and to place health improvement and health equality at the core of all local policies.

To meet our commitment to Health and Health Equity in all Policies and support the WHO Health 2020 European Policy Framework, we need to consider the wider determinants of health in relation to all policies during development:

1. Improving health for all and reducing health inequalities
2. Improving leadership and participatory governance for health

4 policy priority action areas

- Investing in health through a life-course approach and empowering people
- Tackling Europe's major health challenges: non-communicable and communicable diseases
- Strengthening people-centred health systems, public health capacity and emergency preparedness, surveillance and response
- Creating resilient communities and supportive environments

We are also committed to incorporating the themes of the introduced Welsh Government Well-being of Future Generations Bill into our decision making:

1. Integrated consideration of economic, social and environmental well-being with a focus on prevention.
2. Balancing short-term needs with the ability to safeguard the ability to meet long-term needs.
3. Collaborative working, accountability and good governance.
4. Engagement and involvement.

Please use the following scale when considering what contribution the activity makes

U	Undermining: significantly undermines the objective.	F	Fair: makes some direct or significant indirect contribution to the objective.
P	Poor: does not fully explore the potential to contribute to the objective.	G	Good: makes a significant positive contribution to the objective
N	Neutral: does not contribute to the objective or is not applicable	E	Excellent: makes a close to optimal contribution to the objective

Using the Integrated Toolkit

The toolkit is simple and easy to use. The process should take a few days.

Section 1 should be completed by the lead person

Section 2 should be completed by a group of around 6 people to act as an external "critical friend"

The group should discuss: what contribution does the activity make and can any poor/undermining contributions be addressed so that they perform better?

Ground Rules

- Up to 6 people per group
- Group should be multi-disciplinary
- Agree maximum time to allow
- Participants should hold a balanced and independent view
- Adequate information on the activity should be available
- Everyone has the opportunity to feed in their view
- The results are owned by the lead person/lead organisation and shared without lead person/organisation's permission

Please complete all the unshaded sections

Section 1 This section should be completed by the person(s) responsible for the activity

This assessment is designed to assess strategic, regional and service led activities. Below is a filtering process which will enable you to identify if your activity needs assessing by the Integrated Assessment Tool.

Please answer yes or no to the following questions:

Does this activity drive or impact on the Strategic Management of a Service?

Yes / No

Will this activity have a significant impact on local communities?

Yes / No

Will this activity operate at or influence regional working?

Yes / No

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions you will need to carry out an Impact Assessment so continue to Section 2.

If you have answered no to all the above questions you do not need to carry out the assessment, however you may like to consider the following assessments instead;

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

Please note that initiatives will need to be screened for an Equality Impact Assessment.

What contribution does this activity make to Healthy Living?

Consider the impact on:

- 1. Promoting good health and wellbeing and enabling people to flourish.
- 2. Preventing and tackling the causes of ill health.
- 3. Reducing the inequalities in healthcare.
- 4. Reducing inequities in access to healthcare.
- 5. Empowering people in vulnerable, deprived and disadvantaged communities to realise their full health potential.
- 6. Promoting health literacy and providing accessible information on healthcare issues and health and wellbeing services.
- 7. Developing and supporting effective and high quality health and wellbeing services.
- 8. Encouraging and enabling all people to take a role in identifying and addressing barriers to improving their health and wellbeing.
- 9. Increasing people's independence throughout their life course and ability to lead full active lives.

Supporting Evidence

Actions for Improvements

Contribution

	P	N	F	G	E

Pilot Evaluation



“Panel members with different perspectives”

“Constructive recommendations”

“The process gave me the opportunity to identify additional benefits from partner organisations disciplines.”

“Helped to achieve a good strategic view”

“Made me think about the wider impact of document”

“All the cross-cutting issues in one place”

“Challenging questions”



2014 Review

- Check themes and questions still relevant
- Update to reflect Phase VI and relevant strategies and Bills
- Theme 7 – organisational issues / priorities



Pros and Cons

- 👍 More robust product
- 👍 Excellent bang for your buck
- 👍 Addresses regional and local issues
- 👍 Critical friend approach
- 👍 Explicit commitment to reducing health inequalities
 - 👍 Builds capacity and opportunities for Collaboration
- 👎 Significant resource needed to develop tool
- 👎 Expert input
- 👎 Perceived as another tool / hurdle to over come
- 👎 Perceived as resource intensive
- 👎 Encouraging people to use it early enough



Lessons Learnt

- A good tool takes time
- Use tool at an early stage not the 11th hour
- Use on strategic documents and core processes
- Recruit some 'key' advocates
- Theme 7 – bespoke element to the tool creates ownership
- Crib sheet helps stop lengthy debates
- Keep assessments sharp and focused – aim for ½ a day
- Avoid repetition and keep the tool alive
- For big assessments have a scribe
- Wellbeing of Futures Generations Bill
- Focus on tool as Critical friend not a scrutinising tool
- Build up your 'expert bank'



Moving forwards

- Focus on strategic programmes
- Building capacity
- All partners using the tool
- Keep tweaking
- Local Service Board partners
- Sharing the spoils – Welsh Government, other Welsh Health Boards, Wales Audit Office, Welsh Local Government Association, Welsh Commissioner for Sustainable Futures, Marmot Team, Welsh Health Impact Assessment Unit



Thank you

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