

# Tackling Poverty Strategy Review

Recommendations from the Integrated  
Impact Assessment

26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

City and County of Swansea  
Dinas a Sir Abertawe



# Aims of the session

- Provide a background to the IIA tool
- Present the recommendations made by the Panel on the Tackling Poverty Strategy



# Integration







# The Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Toolkit



**What is the Integrated Toolkit?**  
The toolkit was designed to help organisations to align their activities 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 Governments Sustainable Development Scheme.

**Who should use it?**  
The toolkit is intended to be used by network members and their organisations. 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 activities 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

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

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Does this activity drive or impact on the Strategic Management of a Service?</b> | <b>Yes / No</b> |
| <b>Will this activity have a significant impact on local communities?</b>           | <b>Yes / No</b> |
| <b>Will this activity operate at or influence regional working?</b>                 | <b>Yes / No</b> |

**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.





# Benefits of the process

- 👍 More robust product
- 👍 Excellent bang for your buck
- 👍 Address regional and local issues
- 👍 Critical friend approach
- 👍 Builds capacity and opportunities for collaboration
- 👍 Theme 7 – bespoke
- 👍 Assesses for the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act



# Feedback

“Made me think about the wider impact of document”

“Panel members with different perspectives”

“All the cross-cutting issues in one place”

“Constructive recommendations”

“Challenging questions”

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

“Helped to achieve a good strategic view”





# Penny's caveat

- **The assessment:-**
  - took 4 hours
  - there was a significant resource in the room
  - generated a lot of positive discussion and debate
- **The recommendations:-**
  - represent the collective professional opinion of the panel members
  - do not have to be adopted but should be given due consideration
  - are supportive and constructive



# Panel

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Steve Philips   | Economic Regeneration - CCS                     |
| Sarah Crawley   | Poverty & Prevention, CCS (Document expert)     |
| Sherill Hopkins | Access to Services - CCS                        |
| Jo Portwood     | Policy and Strategy Corporate Services - CCS    |
| Sharon Miller   | ABMU Health board                               |
| Maggie Dix      | Lifelong Learning, Education and Learning - CCS |
| Carolyn Thorne  | Human Recourses - CCS                           |
| Phil McDonald   | Swansea Environmental Forum                     |
| Chris Dignam    | Cultural Services - CCS                         |
| Amanda Edwards  | SCVS  |
| Karen Grunhut   | Tackling Poverty Unit, CCS                      |



# Scoring

Score looks at the contribution the activity makes to the impact on each question –

U = **Undermining** – significantly undermines the objective

P = **Poor** – does not fully explore the potential to contribute to the objectives

N = **Neutral** – does not contribute to the objective or is not applicable

F = **Fair** – makes some direct or significant indirect contribution to the objective.

G = **Good** – makes a significant positive contribution to the objective

E = **Excellent** – makes a close to optimal contribution to the objective



# General recommendations

1. A section needs to be included in the Strategy around health and wellbeing (mental health and the Social Services and Wellbeing Act)
2. The Strategy needs to look at having a section towards the front which highlights links to other policies i.e. Equalities Plan, UNCRC.
3. Strategy clearly recognises the long term but does not reflect this in its actions. It needs clear and measureable milestones, viewed within the context of the long term, to enable it to see the long term outcomes through to fruition.
4. There should be the Council definition of “Poverty” at the start of the Strategy





- Strategy could take a more 'co-production' approach linking to as many services as possible i.e. try to make every contact count.
- There needs to be more clarity in the Strategy about how the aims and outcomes of the Strategy influence other strategies i.e. planning, learning and parks.
- Suggest aims and outcomes of this Strategy are embedded in the commissioning process.
- Need to develop and put into place an evaluation and reporting process.



# Healthy Living (score:- fair / good)

1. Include the 'inverse care law' - access to services/poverty/ill health and translating the higher level statements into the Action Plan.
2. The paragraph on the top of page 2 needs to be expanded to look at specific groups of people in Swansea who can be impacted. The term 'communities of interest' needs to be clarified.
3. The Strategy needs to be more explicit about links in health literacy.
4. Need to consider if the Strategy is best placed to deliver high quality health and well-being, or if its role is supporting & enabling local communities and individuals to build their own resilience in accessing high quality access to services



# Learning (score:- fair / good)

1. Strategy needs to make better links with on-going learning programmes, and pull these together into the Action Plan. Focus should not just be on adult learning but life long learning.
2. Strategy needs to make links to the Swansea learning partnership & SERP, and recognise implications that wider activities in Swansea have on tackling poverty.
3. Strategy needs to be clearer on how it contributes to developing long-life skill and improving achievement / attainment.
4. The recognised need in the Strategy to address workforce skills and capacity needs to be turned into actions through the Action Plan.



# Prosperity (score:- Poor / Neutral)

1. The Strategy needs to be clear on its scope in relation to raising economic prosperity. Both in the Strategy and Action Plan itself and through link with other strategies like the Swansea Bay Region Economic Regeneration Strategy. (contact Steve Philips / Clare James).
2. Helping people consider self-employment and/or business start-ups needs to be included within the Strategy and Action Plan.
3. Upskilling needs to be addressed within the Strategy and Action Plan.
4. The Strategy needs to be more explicit about how it can raise people's prosperity by exploiting job creating opportunities.





# Environment (score:- Poor /Neutral)

1. The benefits of a high quality environment need to be included in the well-being, learning and empowerment section of the strategy
2. Good-quality, affordable and resource efficient sustainable housing needs to be addressed
3. The link around the benefits of green space and the role communities can play in improving their natural environment i.e. pride of place
4. Access to and engagement with the natural environment and greenspace needs to be clearly addressed in the Strategy, contact Council's Nature Conservations , Parks and Planning Teams.



# Community (score:- Good)

1. The Strategy needs to be clearer about how it defines “accessible” e.g. financial / physical / social accessibility



# Best practise and continuous improvement (score:- Poor / Neutral / Fair)

1. Strategy needs to be clearer on how it involves people in decision making.
2. Make better use of the two Poverty Forums.
3. Future Trends and fore-sighting need to be addressed in the Strategy and translated into the Action Plan. Recommend that this is considered as part of the review process (contact SDU).
4. Need to take Strategy's aspiration to involve and engage with stakeholders and turn it into action in the Action Plan.
5. Need to make the 3 documents (Strategy. Action Plan and Framework) link well together forming a clear narrative for aims, actions and outcomes.



# CCS Priorities (score:- Excellent)

1. The Well-being of Future Generations Act needs to be considered as part of the review process in conjunction with the Social Services and Well-being Act and the Local Government Bill.
2. The Rights of the Child needs to be made much more explicit in the Strategy.







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