

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form. If you would like further guidance please contact the Access to Services team (see guidance for details).

Section 1

Which service area and directorate are you from?
Service Area: Planning and City Regeneration
Directorate: Place

Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?

Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) Please name and describe here:

Name: Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Biodiversity and Development

Description: The SPG provides supplementary planning guidance to support the implementation of policies in the adopted Swansea Local Development Plan (LDP) on Biodiversity. It explains to planning applicants how the Council will implement the LDP’s biodiversity policies in the context of legislation and policy requirements. The LDP policies cover consideration of designated sites (ER 6) and protected habitats and species (ER 8). Policy ER 9 ensures that development decisions take account of the wider ecosystem resilience of the site and how it connects with surrounding ecological corridors which are enable dispersal and function of protected and priority species. Where protected biodiversity features are present on a site, the Council will require the relevant ecological surveys and assessments to be submitted in support of an application. The SPG provides survey checklists and signposts to best practice guidance on how to carry out the necessary surveys and assessments. The SPG encourages engagement with the Council on biodiversity issues from an early stage of the development process in order to secure the best outcomes for biodiversity and the related social, economic and environmental ecosystem services provided as a result of maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.

It should be noted that the SPG does not introduce new policy, it provides detailed clarification on the relevant policies set out in the LDP, which have been subject to EIA and Examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

Q2(a) WHAT DOES Q1a RELATE TO?

Direct front line service delivery	Indirect front line service delivery	Indirect back room service delivery
<input type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

(b) DO YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THIS...?

Because they need to	Because they want to	Because it is automatically provided to everyone in Swansea	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> (H)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> (L)

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Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING...

	High Impact (H)	Medium Impact (M)	Low Impact (L)	Don't know (H)
Children/young people (0-18) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***The document will improve community cohesion by supporting the implementation of LDP policies on maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity of the County's places and spaces which contribute to mental and physical wellbeing.**

Q4 WHAT ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION / CO-PRODUCTIVE APPROACHES WILL YOU UNDERTAKE?

The report seeks the approval of Members to undertake public and stakeholder consultation, for a minimum 6 week period, on the consultation draft of Supplementary Guidance on Development and Biodiversity

Upon conclusion of public and stakeholder consultations, a schedule of all the comments received will be produced. This will include officer responses confirming whether amendments will be made to the document as a result of the comments made. This schedule will be reported back to Members for consideration alongside a final version of the documents, at which time Members will be asked to formally adopt them as SPG.

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

High visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium visibility <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low visibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
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(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk <input type="checkbox"/> (H)	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/> (M)	Low risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)
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Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes No **If yes, please provide details below**

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Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE?

Please tick the relevant box

MOSTLY H and/or M → **HIGH PRIORITY** → **EIA to be completed**
Please go to Section 2

MOSTLY L → **LOW PRIORITY / NOT RELEVANT** → **Do not complete EIA**
Please go to Q8 followed by Section 2

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for an EIA report, you must provide a full explanation here. Please ensure that you cover all of the relevant protected groups.

An Equality Impact Assessment Screening has been undertaken and it has identified mostly low impacts. The SPG seeks to facilitate community cohesion by assisting the implementation of the relevant LDP policies. The LDP policies have already been subject to EIA and are based on a comprehensive, and up to date evidence base, which has been found sound by the Planning Inspectorate. The SPG balances the delivery of the Council's S6 Duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity with managing growth in a sustainable manner.

*The document will improve community cohesion by supporting the implementation of LDP policies on maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity in the development of the County's places and spaces which contribute to mental and physical wellbeing. A significant amount of engagement has already been completed in the formulation of the policies with the public; and key stakeholders, including NRW, Local Wildlife Groups, Council Officers and Local Councillors. A 6 week consultation is proposed which will provide opportunities for engagement via a range of methods, and the document will be reviewed and amended where appropriate in response to the consultation (in-line with Welsh Government planning guidance) before being presented to Planning Committee for approval to be adopted as planning guidance. Public consultation and engagement is a central element of producing planning guidance. This EIA screening will be reviewed following public consultation to respond to any equalities issues raised during the consultation.

Section 2

NB: Please email this completed form to the Access to Services Team for agreement before obtaining approval from your Head of Service. Head of Service approval is only required via email – no electronic signatures or paper copies are needed.

Screening completed by:	
Name:	Rachel Willis
Job title:	Principal Planning Officer
Date:	18/06/2020
Approval by Head of Service:	
Name:	Phil Holmes
Position:	Head of Service
Date:	