

Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Form

Please ensure that you refer to the Screening Form Guidance while completing this form.

Which service area and directorate are you from?

Service Area: Planning and City Regeneration

Directorate: Place

Q1 (a) What are you screening for relevance?

- New and revised policies, practices or procedures
- Service review, re-organisation or service changes/reductions, which affect the wider community, service users and/or staff
- Efficiency or saving proposals
- Setting budget allocations for new financial year and strategic financial planning
- New project proposals affecting staff, communities or accessibility to the built environment, e.g., new construction work or adaptations to existing buildings, moving to on-line services, changing location
- Large Scale Public Events
- Local implementation of National Strategy/Plans/Legislation
- Strategic directive and intent, including those developed at Regional Partnership Boards and Public Services Board, which impact on a public bodies functions
- Medium to long term plans (for example, corporate plans, development plans, service delivery and improvement plans)
- Setting objectives (for example, well-being objectives, equality objectives, Welsh language strategy)
- Major procurement and commissioning decisions
- Decisions that affect the ability (including external partners) to offer Welsh language opportunities and services

(b) Please name and fully describe initiative here:

Supplementary Planning Guidance –Trees, Hedgerows and Woodlands (SPG).

The SPG provides supplementary planning guidance to support the implementation of Policy ER 11, in the adopted Swansea Local Development Plan (LDP). It sets out the steps that need to be considered at the planning and design stages and during construction to ensure that all significant existing and proposed trees are kept healthy and become an asset to a new development. Specific guidance is given on how to prevent damage during construction to the tree's soil and root structure, and how to incorporate into the development in line with relevant best practice guidance. Best practice guidance on tree, shrub and hedgerow planting on new developments is signposted and applicants are guided through the documentation required to be submitted with a planning application in relation to trees.

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

The document promotes and seeks to protect the value of trees as part of providing healthier and more sustainable environments. It recognises that trees in and around towns and cities have a vital role to play in

- Promoting sustainable communities through the significant contribution trees make to the cultural and heritage value in the context of a historic park, garden or designed landscape.
- Making a positive contribution to the scenic character, local distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape
- Creating 'place',

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- Providing a vital habitat for dependent wildlife populations and substantial environmental benefits such as improving quality of life, attenuation of noise, flood alleviation and improving the climate and air quality.
- Protecting buildings from the elements, provide shade and assist in energy conservation.
- Enhancing the setting of new development, its character, sense of maturity and overall quality thus helping with the saleability and profitability of properties.
- Attract businesses and visitors to quality environmental areas, thereby boosting the economy.
- Increasing public's awareness of environmental issues and the health benefits of being near or seeing trees is also increasing.
- Increasing pressure on developers to focus attention on trees and their role in providing a more pleasant and healthier environment

Q2 What is the potential impact on the following: the impacts below could be positive (+) or negative (-)

	High Impact		Medium Impact		Low Impact		Needs further investigation
	+	-	+	-	+	-	
Children/young people (0-18)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people (50+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other age group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Future Generations (yet to be born)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race (including refugees)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum seekers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsies & travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or (non-)belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty/social exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers (inc. young carers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3 What involvement has taken place/will you undertake e.g. engagement/consultation/co-productive approaches?

Please provide details below – either of your activities or your reasons for not undertaking involvement

A public consultation and engagement process was undertaken on the draft version of the SPG for a minimum of 6 weeks, which began on the 4th September and ran until the 26th October 2020. As a result of the initial consultation, a second consultation and engagement process was carried out in July/September 2021 on the amended draft version of the SPG.

3.2 Face to face public engagement events were unable to occur due to constraints on social contact associated with Covid-19 restrictions. This was the case during both the initial

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and subsequent consultation. Nevertheless, the consultation involved a wide range of awareness raising and engagement activities, including:

- Print media articles and social media notices before and during the consultation
- A specific web page created for the SPG that described the consultation, provided a weblink to the document, and a link to the comment form.
- A copy of the Initial Consultation Report was provided on the SPG webpage to support the second consultation process.
- Notification emails posted to a range of stakeholders, including Councillors
- Remote briefings to stakeholder groups via Microsoft Teams presentations.
- Publication of recorded video presentations on the Council’s website.

Comments received in response to both consultation processes have been collated and evaluated, and are reported in the Consultation Reports which provide the Council’s response and amendments to this revised version of the SPG. The Consultation Reports will be published on the website alongside the adopted SPG.

Q4 Have you considered the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 in the development of this initiative:

- a) Overall does the initiative support our Corporate Plan’s Well-being Objectives when considered together?
 Yes No
- b) Does the initiative consider maximising contribution to each of the seven national well-being goals?
 Yes No
- c) Does the initiative apply each of the five ways of working?
 Yes No
- d) Does the initiative meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs?
 Yes No

Q5 What is the potential risk of the initiative? (Consider the following impacts – equality, socio-economic, environmental, cultural, legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk <input type="checkbox"/>	Medium risk <input type="checkbox"/>	Low risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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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**

Implementation of the planning guidance requires resources and input from Natural Environment Team and Parks and Maintenance Team.

Q7 What is the cumulative impact of this proposal on people and/or communities when considering all the impacts identified within the screening and any other key decisions affecting similar groups/ service users made by the organisation?

The purpose of the SPG is to ensure that development maintains and enhances the number and quality of trees in the built environment. Trees are central to delivering the placemaking

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agenda, as they provide visual amenity, sense of place, cooling and shading, carbon capture and water management. They also improve health and well being by increasing access to green space and the resulting mental and physical benefits (access to exercise, contact with nature, clean air/quiet spaces etc). There will therefore be a clear positive cumulative impact of the proposal for all sectors/ages/profiles of the community for the benefit of current and future generations.

Outcome of Screening

Q8 Please describe the outcome of your screening below:

- **Summary of impacts identified and mitigation needed (Q2)**
- **Summary of involvement (Q3)**
- **WFG considerations (Q4)**
- **Any risks identified (Q5)**
- **Cumulative impact (Q7)**

An Equality Impact Assessment Screening was undertaken on the previous version of the document for consultation. That EIA Screening identified mostly low impacts. This IIA is an update of that EIA to reflect the consultation process undertaken and amendments that have been made to the document as a result.

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 need to protect the environmental, social and economic value of trees with managing growth in a sustainable manner.

The document will improve community cohesion by supporting the implementation of LDP policies on maintaining and enhancing existing trees on developments and ensuring that planting of new trees are integrated into 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 public consultation and engagement process was undertaken on the draft version of the SPG for a minimum of 6 weeks, in October 2020. The document was reviewed and amended where appropriate in response to the consultation (in-line with Welsh Government planning guidance). A second consultation was undertaken for a minimum of six weeks from July 2021 on the amended draft. Further amendments were made in response. The final version is now proposed for Adoption by the Council for use as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. . Public consultation and engagement is a central element of producing planning guidance. No equalities issues were raised during the previous consultation.

Full IIA to be completed

Do not complete IIA – please ensure you have provided the relevant information above to support this outcome

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.

Screening completed by:
Name: Rachel Willis
Job title: Principal Planning Officer

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Date: 28/09/2021
Approval by Head of Service:
Name:
Position:
Date:

Please return the completed form to accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk