

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre Valleys Regional Park Gateway.

Enhancements of facilities to include;

1. Refurbishment of toilet and shower facilities
2. Children's play area
3. Improved car parking capacity
4. Motor home hook up points
5. Low key lighting within car park
6. Digital information point

Service Area: Tourism, Regeneration and Economic Development

Directorate: Environment

2. Does the initiative affect:

	Yes	No
Service users	x	
Staff		x
Wider community	x	
Internal administrative process only		x

3. Does the initiative impact on people because of their:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't Know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence)/How might it impact?
Age		x				The proposals will have no impact

Disability	x				M	<p>The proposals will create an accessible play area which includes both sensory and wheelchair accessible sections within the play area.</p> <p>The car park already provides ample disabled car parking spaces and accessible public toilets and showers will be refurbished as part of this scheme to ensure compliance with current accessibility standards.</p> <p>During construction the toilet building will need to close, however alternative, temporary provision will be provided on site for the duration of the works.</p> <p>The facility is already accessible via wheelchair and pushchair friendly ramps.</p>
Gender Reassignment		x				The proposals will have no impact
Marriage/Civil Partnership		x				The proposals will have no impact
Pregnancy/Maternity		x				The proposals will have no impact
Race		x				The proposals will have no impact
Religion/Belief		x				The proposals will have no impact
Sex		x				There are no proposed changes to the number of available male/ female toilet and shower compartments.
Sexual orientation		x				The proposals will have no impact

4. Does the initiative impact on:

	Yes	No	None/	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence used) / How might it impact?
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			Negligible			
People's opportunities to use the Welsh language			x		L	The proposals will have no impact. The car park where the proposals are located is owned and managed by NPTCBC. All signage on site is bilingual.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English			x		L	The proposals will have no impact. The car park where the proposals are located is owned and managed by NPTCBC. All signage on site is bilingual.

5. Does the initiative impact on biodiversity:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
To maintain and enhance biodiversity			x		L	The proposals will have no impact.
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.			x		L	The proposals will have no impact.

6. Does the initiative embrace the sustainable development principle (5 ways of working):

	Yes	No	Details

Long term - how the initiative supports the long term well-being of people	x		The package of proposals enhance the facilities on offer at Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. The proposals will enhance the offer at the centre for family groups whilst also encouraging users to take part in outdoor activity.
Integration - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives	x		The proposals will enhance opportunities to take part in outdoor activities in particular by families. The enhanced offer at the visitor centre will encourage a greater economic contribution from tourism within the local community.
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	x		The diversification of Afan Forest Park to attract more family visitors; and the installation of a children's play area, is a matter of regular discussion within the Afan Forest Park Destination Management Stakeholder Group who are keen to see facilities enhanced for this purpose.
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	x		We work closely with Natural Resources Wales on the development of Afan Forest Park as a visitor destination. NRW has been consulted on these proposals and we are currently working in partnership to develop a joint masterplan for the destination of Afan Forest Park.
Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	x		The investments will enhance existing facilities and make them more energy efficient.

7. Declaration - based on above assessment (tick as appropriate):

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required	x
Reasons for this conclusion	
The proposals will not have any adverse impact on people with protected characteristics. The overall project has a positive impact on wellbeing objectives.	

A full impact assessment (second stage) is required	
Reasons for this conclusion	

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Completed by	Karleigh Davies	Tourism Manager		04/11/20
Signed off by	Simon Brennan	Head of Service		04/11/20