

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: Neath Piazza (Levelling Up Fund Project Proposal).

The new piazza will link the new leisure development in Neath to the town centre opposite, creating a multi-purpose community space, which could be used for a wide range of outdoor events including farmers /craft / continental markets, performances, Christmas fayres, temporary food and beverage kiosks, juvenile fairground rides and temporary 'beaches' to name but a few examples. The physical works will include new paving, street furniture, green infrastructure and electric hook-up infrastructure.

The project aims to support our local businesses by increasing footfall in our town centre, making it a more attractive place in which to live, travel, work and enjoy recreational time.

Service Area: Property & Regeneration

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			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.

Disability		X			L	The scheme will ensure inclusive access through design, which will maintain access for people with mobility issues.
Gender Reassignment		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Marriage/Civil Partnership		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Pregnancy/Maternity		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Race		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Religion/Belief		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Sex		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.
Sexual orientation		X			L	The nature of the improvements will have no impact on this characteristic.

4. Does the initiative impact on:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence used) / How might it impact?
People's opportunities to use the Welsh language		x			L	In line with the Council's Corporate Plan and Welsh Language policy, all signage at the site (temporary and permanent), any public communications regarding the project, to include press releases, social media posts, site hoardings etc. will be translated into Welsh and will be released with no time delay.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English		x			L	As above

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 addition of green planting as part of this project will enhance biodiversity within the town centre.
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.	X				L	As above

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 overall aim of the project is to create a better place to work, live and enjoy recreational time. The project will improve the attractiveness of the town centre and will provide a versatile space for a wide range of events that will not only increase footfall in the town centre, thus supporting our local businesses and increasing economic prosperity for the town but will also support the well-being of residents, who will be able to visit the town centre to enjoy a wide range of events with their families and friends.
Integration - how the initiative	x		The project will contribute to all three well-being objectives as follows:

impacts upon our wellbeing objectives			<p>Objective 1: Improve the well-being of children and young people by providing a new facilities within the town centre.</p> <p>Objective 2: to improve the well-being of all adults who live in the county borough, by providing a more attractive town centre to visit and;</p> <p>Objective 3: to develop the local economy and environment, so that the well-being of people can be improved – by increasing footfall, which will likely boost economic prosperity in the town.</p>
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	x		<p>During the development phase of the project, consultation was carried out with the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Strategy Board for the Swansea Bay City Region • South Wales Public Services Board • Port Talbot Business Improvement District / Viva Port Talbot <p>All feedback collated was positive and the Boards will each be providing a written letter of support.</p>
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	x		As above.
Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	x		In a post Covid-19 economy, it is believed that the project will lead to increased footfall in the town centre, which will support our local businesses and boost economic prosperity.

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

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for this conclusion	
In line with Neath Port Talbot IIA screening form guidance, it has been determined that a full assessment is not appropriate in this instance, as the scheme will have a low impact on protected characteristics.	

A full impact assessment (second stage) is required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for this conclusion	

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Completed by	Claire Williams	European & Strategic Funding Officer	C Williams	28/05/2021
Signed off by	Lisa Willis	European & Strategic Funding Manager	L Willis	01/06/2021