

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: Submission of an Application to access EU Transition funding for tackling food poverty and addressing food insecurity 2021/22. A bid has been prepared to access Welsh Government grant funding to support the development and implementation of two projects in Neath Port Talbot to tackle food poverty. One will be a fixed-base community fridge project in Sandfields. The other a mobile kitchen and food provision working from Cwmafan but covering Area 5 (Margam, Taibach, Bryn and Cwmafan and the Afan Valley).

Service Area: Multiple services will be involved in the delivery of the project.

Directorate:

The Corporate Policy Unit in the Chief Executive's Directorate will oversee the project, manage the funding and complete monitoring reports to the Welsh Government on a quarterly basis.

Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning will manage the community fridge project in Tir Morfa, whilst the food van will be co-ordinated by an elected Member.

2. Does the initiative affect:

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

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	✓				M	While it is anticipated that these projects will have a positive impact for anyone who is facing food poverty or experiencing any difficulties in accessing affordable,

						nutritious food, during the pandemic many food banks reported an increase in demand for support from older adults. Both these initiatives are community based, the mobile provision will from an outreach service which will be a particular benefit to some of our older, more vulnerable residents.
Disability	✓				M	The mobile element of these initiatives should reduce any negative Again, during the height of the pandemic, through our Safe and Well service it became apparent that those dealing with mental health issues sometimes struggled to prepare healthy meals. The provision of hot, affordable meals should help alleviate some of the stress surrounding this.
Gender Reassignment			✓			
Marriage/Civil Partnership			✓			
Pregnancy/Maternity	✓				M	
Race	✓				M	The mobile provision will cater for a range of specific cultural and dietary requirements.
Religion/Belief	✓				M	The mobile provision will cater for a range of specific cultural and dietary requirements.
Sex	✓				M	Anecdotally, there was an increase in demand for support to access food from older, male residents. Both initiatives will be available and supplement the support already available to this client group.
Sexual orientation			✓			

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	✓					There will be Welsh speaking staff in the fixed-base provision in Tir Morfa.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English			✓			

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		✓				It is likely there will be no change as a result of this proposal
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.		✓				It is likely there will be no change as a result of this proposal

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	✓		<p>Although the grant funding is relatively short-term (from August 2021 until 31st March 2022) it is intended that both projects will eventually become self-sufficient. The community fridge facilitate the co-ordination of supplies from local food businesses and enhance our existing allotments to sustain the growth of fresh fruit and veg. The mobile kitchen provision will offer affordable meals. The ongoing income generated from sales will be re-invested into the project.</p> <p>Both projects are intended to empower the local community to take ownership of these new resources, continuing to reduce food waste and provide an accessible way to access food for all.</p>
Integration - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives	✓		Both projects are community based. The well-being of children, young people and adults will be supported as these projects increase opportunities for people to access to fresh, nutritious food. Collaboration with local businesses to reduce their food waste and new opportunities for volunteering and paid employment will also help develop the local economy.
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	✓		A wide reaching, multi-agency meeting was convened to discuss possible opportunities for the EU transition funding for food poverty. It was agreed that two separate work-streams would form the basis of the bid and several Councillors, Council Officers, partners and private sector organisations were involved in the development of the proposals. Should the bid be successful, ongoing collaboration will be required to initiate and sustain the projects to ensure they achieve their intended outcomes.
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	✓		
Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	✓		Food poverty is an increasing issue in Neath Port Talbot. These initiatives will prevent some families from falling into food poverty in the first instance whilst helping reduce food waste. For those already in food poverty, these initiatives will offer additional support and opportunities for training, volunteering and employment.

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

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required	✓
Reasons for this conclusion	
<p>A full assessment is not required at this time as the first stage assessment did not identify any negative impacts from the initiatives.</p> <p>Should the bid for grant funding be a success there will be opportunities to undertake further assessments for both proposed projects during the implementation phase.</p>	

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

	Name	Position	Date
Completed by	Fiona Clay-Poole	Corporate Policy Officer	15.07.2021
Signed off by	Hywel Jenkins	Director of Finance & Corporate Services	15.07.21