

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: Gelli Houses Disused Railway Tunnel
Service Area: Neighbourhood Management Services
Directorate: Environment & Regeneration

2. Does the initiative affect:

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

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		No				The recommendations associated with the gelli tunnel has no impact on people associated with protected characteristics, as the recommendation is to not change the current position.
Disability		No				
Gender Reassignment		No				
Marriage/Civil Partnership		No				
Pregnancy/Maternity		No				
Race		No				
Religion/Belief		No				
Sex		No				

Sexual orientation		No				
--------------------	--	----	--	--	--	--

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		No				Any signage erected as part of the initiative will be displayed in both Welsh and English.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English		No				Any signage erected as part of the initiative will be displayed in both Welsh and 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	Yes					The recommendation is to not change the current situation that currently exists. The tunnel is used by roosting bats and by keeping the tunnel open to wildlife such as birds and bats there will be no negative impact on biodiversity. Options 3 and 4 would likely have a negative impact, whilst serious consideration would need to be given to biodiversity measures if implemented.
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment,	Yes					The recommendation is to not change the current situation that currently exists. The tunnel is used by roosting bats and by keeping the tunnel open to wildlife such as birds and bats there will be no negative impact on biodiversity. Options 3 and 4 would likely have a negative impact, whilst serious

such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.						consideration would need to be given to biodiversity measures if implemented.
--	--	--	--	--	--	---

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	Yes		By progressing with option 2 and not recommending options 3 or 4 the Council are safeguarding the asset for any potential future investment that could offer a heritage feature for the local community and visitors to the Afan Valley to enjoy.
Integration - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives	Yes		By keeping in place a temporary measure of closing the tunnel to prevent and safety risks and not effectively destroying the asset as per options 3 and 4, the Council is ensuring that the local environment, culture and heritage can be enjoyed by future generations whilst a sustainable solution for the asset is identified.
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	Yes		The initiative is to not change anything at present in order to explore future opportunities associated with the asset. During that period, consultation with the relevant stakeholders including the local community will be undertaken.
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	Yes		As above, the recommendation to keep the status quo in the short terms will provide the Council time to engage with other services and organisations to identify a sustainable solution for the asset for the future.
Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	Yes		By keeping the tunnel closed, the Council are preventing any risk to members of the public. Continued inspection of the tunnel whilst a sustainable solution is sought will help to identify any potential further structural issues that may require action.

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

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for this conclusion	
Due to the minimal impact as highlighted above, there is no requirement for a second stage impact assessment. The initiative only has a positive impact in terms of the IIA.	

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

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Completed by	James Davies	Neighbourhood Services Manager	JD	8 th September 2022
Signed off by	David W. Griffiths	Head of Engineering & Transport	DWG	8 th September 2022