

Equality Impact Assessment

Please see the *How to do an Equality Impact Assessment* leaflet for help in completing this form. You are welcome to contact Delyth Williams, Policy and Equality Officer on ext. 32708, or DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru, for further help.

The Council is required (under Equality Act 2010) to consider the impact of a change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new one) on people with protected equality characteristics. The Council also has additional general duties set out in part 2b. A timely equality impact assessment must therefore be made before making a decision on any relevant change (i.e. one that affects people with a specific protected characteristic).

1 Details

1.1 What is the name of the policy / service in question?

Under consideration is the implementation of a legal order –

Public Space protection order – for part of the towns of Caernarfon, Criccieth and Pwllheli, which will contain 4 aspects of behaviour (antisocial behaviour ASB) which are prohibited by the order, and can be enforced as criminal acts under certain circumstances

1.2 What is the purpose of the policy / service that is being created or changed? What changes are being considered?

The order is being considered as a means of tackling antisocial behaviour in certain geographical areas of the towns of Caernarfon, Criccieth and Pwllheli.

1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?

Gwen Davies / Daron Owens, Senior Operational Officer, Community Safety partnership –Gwynedd and Anglesey

1.4 When did you begin the assessment? What version is this?

V1 – 21.07.2023

2) Implementation

2.1 Who are the partners that you will have to work with to carry out this assessment?

North Wales Police
Cabinet
Members of Parliament for the 3 towns.

The public and interested bodies –in the context of the statutory consultation

2.2. What steps have you taken to engage with people with protected characters?

A public consultation is to take place if the application is approved by Cabinet. A Questionnaire will be placed on the Council's website, libraries, and shops in the 3 areas. This consultation will be open for 28 days.

We have also contacted Members of Parliament for the catchment areas, and they have preferred this option because of the anti-social situation.

2.3 What was the result of the engagement?

- Not currently applicable.

2.4 What other information informed the way you operate?

North Wales Police have submitted a substantial amount of documented evidence, showing the increase in, and change in types of Anti-Social Behaviour in Caernarfon, Criccieth and Pwllheli.

For example, an increase in complaints for the public around 'nuisance' in public spaces, begging in named locations, such as near cash points and ASB associated with drug misuse.

The Police have confirmed, that in these occurrences, most of the offenders are males

2.5 Are there any gaps in evidence that need to be gathered?

No

3) Identifying the Impact

- 3.1 The Council must give due regard to the impact any changes will have on people with equality characteristics. What impact will the new policy/service or the proposed changes have on these characteristics? You are welcome to add further characteristics if you wish.**

Characteristics	What type of impact?*	In what way? What is the evidence?
Race (including nationality)	Positive / Negative / None	It is possible that this order, because of the specific prohibitions within it, can be used if required to tackle race/hate crime particularly the first prohibition within the order.
The Welsh language	Positive / Negative / None	No
Disability	Positive / Negative / None	<p>It is expected that only a low number of people will reach the threshold which will result in an arrest. For those who are arrested, the Police have processes in place to offer wellbeing interventions within and beyond the Custody suite. This includes Mental health aspects of an individual's needs –</p> <p>“Any person taken to custody are subject of a full risk assessment to cover physical and MH (mental health) with access to a custody nurse. If not deemed fit to detain arrangements are made to safely release with appropriate signposting. If there were significant concerns around MH, (mental health) arrangements would be made for a medical team to attend custody to complete assessment and if required appropriate treatment thereafter or if not feasible to conduct in custody the subject would be taken to a MH unit for assessment”</p> <p>It is possible that this order, because of the specific prohibitions within it, can be used if required to tackle disability/hate crime particularly the first prohibition within the order.</p>
Gender	Positive / Negative / None	<p>It is likely to affect more Males, as the evidence shows males are more often the perpetrators of such behaviour. This has been confirmed by the Police, in relation to the data on past offences in the area.</p> <p>However the order will protect all genders</p>
Age	Positive / Negative / None	Antisocial behaviour is more likely to be perpetrated by younger adults, but not exclusively

Sexual orientation	Positive / Negative / None	It is possible that this order, because of the specific prohibitions within it, can be used if required to tackle sexual orientation/hate crime particularly the first prohibition within the order.
Religion or belief (or lack of belief)	Positive / Negative / None	It is possible that this order, because of the specific prohibitions within it, can be used if required to tackle religion or belief/hate crime particularly the first prohibition within the order.
Gender reassignment	Positive / Negative / None	It is possible that this order, because of the specific prohibitions within it, can be used if required to tackle gender reassignment/hate crime particularly the first prohibition within the order.
Pregnancy and maternity	Positive / Negative / None	No
Marriage and civil partnership	Positive / Negative / None	No

* delete as appropriate

3.2 It is the Council's duty, under the Equality Act 2010, to contribute positively to a fairer community by promoting equality and good relationships in their activities in the areas of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, transgender, disability and pregnancy and maternity. The Council must give due regard to the way any change affects these duties.

General Duties of the Equality Act	Does the policy have an impact?*	In what way? What is the evidence?

Remove illegal discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Yes	Yes, as the order is specifically targeted at behaviour which causes harassment - this can include hate crime of all types (all characteristics above)
Promoting equal opportunities	No	No
Encouraging good relationships	Yes	<p>Yes, as the enforcements process begins with engagement and education, which if effective, stops escalation of behaviour and legal response – and therefore seek to improve the persons understanding of their behaviour’s effect on other members of the public etc.</p> <p>One of the intentions is to make Caernarfon, Criccieth and Pwllheli a safer and more pleasant public space for all members of the community.</p>

* delete as appropriate

4) Analysing the results

4.1 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, positive impact on any of the equality characteristics or the General Duties and what is the reason for this?

Hopefully, there will be a positive impact of the public's experience of working/living/visiting the towns of Caernarfon, Criccieth and Pwllheli. That they will witness less ASB, and feel safer when out in their community

4.2 Is the Plan therefore likely to have a substantial, negative impact on any of the equality characteristics or General Duties and what is the reason for this?

None has been identified

4.3 What should be done?

Select one of the following:

Continue with the plan as it is robust	Yes
Adapt the plan to remove any barriers	

Suspend and abolish the plan as the detrimental impacts are too large	
Continue with the plan as any detrimental impact can be justified	

4.4 If continuing with the plan, what steps will you take to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?

Not applicable

4.5 If you do not take further action to remove or reduce negative impacts, explain why here.

Not applicable

5) Monitoring

5.1 What steps will you take to monitor the impact and effectiveness of the plan (action plan)?

The Police will produce regular monitoring reports on the enforcement of the order.

