

North Wales Growth Integrated Impact Assessment Report

Programme	Digital Programme
Project	Connected Campuses
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Office responsible for monitoring impact	Stuart Whitfield
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Version	1

DETAILS OF PROPOSAL - Aim/Purpose/Outcome

***Proposal refers to what is being assessed and includes, policies, strategies, functions, procedures, practices, initiatives, projects and savings proposals**

The LPWAN project aims to drive the adoption of Low Power Wide Area Networks across the region through a combination of revenue and capital activities. The project will address barriers to takeup to deliver socioeconomic benefits to the public sector, communities and businesses in the region associated with productivity and performance improvements enabled by modern connectivity technologies.

The strategic context sets out the alignment between the project and key strategic drivers including:

- Alignment to the Digital Strategy for Wales and the UK Digital Strategy and UK Wireless Infrastructure Strategy
- Alignment with the Growth Vision for North Wales, The NWEAB Digital Connectivity Strategy and the Regional Economic Framework as well as NWEAB Statement on Climate Change and Biodiversity.

Purpose

This document outlines the integrated impact assessment undertaken as part of this proposal. This integrated approach ensures that the impact assessment is proportionate and at the centre of policy making and delivery. The aim is to take a rounded view of the main impacts, both positive and negative and involve all persons affected by the proposal; and uses evidence to meet both the requirements of the *legislations* in the short-term and long-term.

The Integrated Assessment covers 3 key areas: Well-Being, Equalities and Welsh Language and provides an overall conclusion as to the impact the proposal will have. It will highlight any positive outcomes, ensure consideration is given against each of the elements within these 3 key areas and detail any mitigating actions required using the Five Ways of Working.

Well-being:

The assessment will record any positive contributions and potential negative impacts against each of the 7 Well-Being goals in line with the Well-Being of Future Generations Act 2015. The objective will be to seek and secure where possible, sustained improvements in the economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing of people in the region and Wales as a whole. To identify key learning points through the 5 ways of working and seek to embed these improvements through a range of mediums: stakeholder engagements, looking at the long-term effects of the proposal and implementation of an agreed action plan to ensure monitoring of negative mitigations and contributions to positive impacts.

Equalities:

The duty to undertake Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) arises from the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and the Equality Act 2010. This assessment will help to ensure that any policies and decisions do not discriminate, that they promote equality wherever possible and that they foster good community relations. This will involve assessing the likely effects on people in respect of disability, gender, race, language, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment and religion or belief. Where relevant, consideration will also be given to marriage and civil partnership and maternity and pregnancy. Additionally, it will consider it essential that policies and decisions are assessed in order to determine their impact on Welsh language. The assessment will proactively consider the positive and negative impact against the 11 Protective Characteristics as required under the equalities legislation (Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011). This will ensure that there is no unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation and there is an equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic. Due regard will be given for advancing equality throughout the proposal.

Welsh Language:

The assessment reviews the impact of the proposal against the 3 Themes within the WG guide in line with the

Monitoring and Review

Any actions identified as part of this impact review will be included in the action plan and reviewed regularly by the programme board. This document may be updated to include additional actions as identified as part of this monitoring process.

Supplementary Evidence - Links to documents/webpages <i>(5 Ways of Working)</i>	Well-Being	Equalities	Welsh Language
Integration: What evidence and data has informed your proposal? <i>Detail any policies and processes used in support of the assessment</i>	Various Welsh and UK policies all impacting on well-being, including Well-being of Future Generations Act, UK Industrial strategy		ANW has a Welsh Language policy with Gwynedd Council as host authority in accordance with the Welsh Language Act.
Collaboration: Stakeholders involved in the impact assessment and consultation process	Business case development has involved a wide range of stakeholders from public, private and third sectors, with a project board and stakeholder group to support governance and guidance.	Stakeholders involved the development of the business case consist of both Welsh speakers and non Welsh speakers with a fluent SRO and project manager.	Stakeholders involved the development of the business case consist of both Welsh speakers and non Welsh speakers.

Involvement: Who does this proposal affect and how have they been involved in the consultation process		Workshops and consultation has been inclusive and open.	Stakeholders involved the development of the business case consist of both Welsh speakers and non Welsh speakers.
Long-term: Base line information used to balance short-term needs and safeguard meeting long-term needs	Well being benefits are an expected core focus for the project with long term objectives associated with promoting applications in health and social care, for example.	By its design the project is non discriminatory through delivery of coverage across the region, for benefits realisation irrespective of the characteristics of those living and working within them.	The project's investment targets are geographically focused on North Wales where the Welsh language is the predominant day to day language, particularly in the south and west.
Prevention: Details of any action plans following consultations to include monitoring	Feedback from workshops, consultation and Gateway Review processes has been recorded and actioned appropriately. The on-going project management process and structured meeting schedule will log risk and issues, provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss and engage, and review follow-up actions regularly	Feedback from workshops, consultation and review processes has been recorded and actioned appropriately. The on-going project management process and structured meeting schedule will log risk and issues, provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss and engage, and review follow-up actions regularly.	Feedback from workshops, consultation and review processes has been recorded and actioned appropriately. The on-going project management process and structured meeting schedule will log risk and issues, provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss and engage, and review follow-up actions regularly.

WELL-BEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The assessment will identify the impact against each of the 7 Well-being Goals and provide an overall Well-being rating being Positive / Neutral / Negative. It will also provide evidence in support of the results and detail any mitigating actions required to minimise any negative effect.

The overall impact rating for this section will be determined on the highest number of Positive, Neutral and Negative impacts recorded against each Well-Being goals.

Where there may be a negative impact identified and proposed action plan must be completed to determine what mitigating actions will be undertaken and monitored to minimise the effect.



IMPACT AGAINST THE 7 Well-being Goals

A prosperous NW Region

positive

A NW Region of cohesive communities

positive

A resilient NW Region

positive

A healthier NW Region

positive

A NW Region of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

positive

A more equal NW Region

positive

A globally responsible NW Region

positive

OVERALL WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT

POSITIVE

Note the overall Well-being assessment conclusion below:

The project has a positive impact on all dimensions of the Well-being goals.

A prosperous NW Region:

An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

Overall Impact
Result:
Positive
Justification for Impact

The project seeks to develop critical improvements in digital connectivity in communities in North Wales. LPWAN facilitates productivity improvements and supports existing and new employment.

Further actions Required

Activites to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.

Positive Impacts Identified

- improved employment levels
- greater potential for job creation
- greater productivity
- improved access to new technology

Negative Impacts Identified

none

A resilient NW Region:

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

Overall Impact
Result:
Positive

Justification for Impact

LPWAN support a wide range of environmental monitoring applications including flood risk, pollution, air quality and soil moisture. Its use can support the minimisation of fertiliser application / improved nutrient management to reduce pollution amongst other applications including conservation of protected plant species, monitoring coastal erosion and atmospheric pollution.

Further Actions Required

Activities to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.

Positive Impacts Identified

Greater scope for monitoring of a wide range of environmental conditions to support the protection and management of the environment

Negative Impacts Identified

none

A healthier NW Region:

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

Overall Impact

Result:

Positive

Justification for Impact	LPWAN applications in social care are demonstrating the ability to more closely monitor the circumstances of vulnerable service users. The technology is also being used increasingly to monitor the condition of social housing to assist the early identificaton of changes which may represent a risk to health, such as excessive mositure in the atmosphere as a risk factor for mold grwoth, for example. Similarly, extremes of temperature can also be monitored frequently, remotely and at scale efficiently allowing for more effective identification of conditions which may risk the well beign of residents.
Further Actions Required	Activites to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.
Positive Impacts Identified	Health and well being benefits from monitoring of living conditions enabling earlier intervention where required.
Negative Impacts Identified	none

A more equal NW Region:
A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).

Overall Impact	Result: Positive
Justification for Impact	The provision of an open access free to use LPWAN to enable innovation and support trialling of use cases supports those without the means to invest themselves to investigate feasibility of economically beneficial use cases. The project reduces an affordability barrier to innovation.

Further Actions Required

Promotion of training opportunities and funding to support those digitally excluded.

Positive Impacts Identified

Potential for greater levels of technology innovation amongst individuals otherwise without the means to invest.

Negative Impacts Identified

none

A NW Region of cohesive communities:

Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

Overall Impact

Result:

Positive

Justification for Impact

LPWAN is versatile technology with applications which can support communities such as through providing responsive reporting on water course levels to give early alerts of flood risk, monitoring the status of gates to alert of unexpected usage to detect potential trespassing / crime, remote tracking of property to detect incidences of theft etc

Further Actions Required

Activites to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.

Positive Impacts Identified

Ealrlier detection of flood events / earlier implementatin of flood response, earlier detection of crime / deterrent effect, greater community assurance through accessibilty of information

Negative Impacts Identified

none

A NW Region of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:

A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

Overall Impact

Result:

Positive

Justification for Impact

The project will extend LPWAN coverage significantly in rural areas. There may be a positive impact on the level of technology innovation within Welsh speaking communities contributing to long term economic sustainability, pariticularly where ecosystems of businesses and individuals in Welsh speaking communities can develop sustained collaboration and capacity building.

Further Actions Required

Activites to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.

Positive Impacts Identified

Greater levels of innovation in Welsh speaking communities

Negative Impacts Identified

none

A globally responsible NW Region:

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.

Overall Impact

Result:

Positive

Justification for Impact

The use of LPWAN has significant potential to reduce energy consumption and therefore carbon emissions through monitoring of usage and informing strategies to reduce waste. Applications range from identification of excessive heating or cooling levels to shorter car journeys through prior identification of available parking spaces. Similarly, where the technology enables remote monitoring there may be a reduction in travel required to undertake manual checking.

Further Actions Required

Activites to promote the adoption of digital connectivity, demand stimulation.

Positive Impacts Identified

Reduced carbon emissions, less pollution associated with fossil fuel use, less congestion, reduced energy consumption

Negative Impacts Identified

None

Evidence to support the Well-being Impact Assessment

- ☒ We have consulted published research or guides that inform us about the likely impact of the proposal
- ☐ We have involved an expert / consulted a group who represent those who may affected by the proposal
- ☒ We have engaged with people who will be affected by the proposal

EQUALITY IMPACT

This sections seeks to identify the impact the proposal will have on the protective characteristics. The aim will be to actively encourage equality and recognise the different needs, requirements and goals; to activity work against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relationships and mutual respect within and between our communities, residents, elected members and workforce. The aim is to be inclusive and create equality irrespective of ethic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, use of Welsh Language in line with the Equality Act 2010.

This will included our duty to:

Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Having due regard for advancing equality involves:

- removing or minimising disadvantages experienced by people due to their protected characteristics
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people
- encouraging people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.



IMPACT AGAINST THE 11 PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Race	Neutral	Gender Reassignment	Neutral
Sex	Neutral	Religion or Belief	Neutral
Disability	Neutral	Age	Neutral
Welsh Language	Neutral	Pregnancy	Neutral
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	Marriage	Neutral
		Civil Partnerships	Neutral
OVERALL EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT	NEUTRAL		

Note the overall conclusion below:

LPWAN has the potential to drive benefits for the economy and society as a whole. It has a neutral impact against the 11 protected characteristics

Race

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Sex

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Disability

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Welsh Language

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Sexual Orientation

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Gender Reassignment

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Religion or Belief**Overall Impact****Result:****Neutral**

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Age**Overall Impact****Result:****Neutral**

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Pregnancy

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Marriage

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified

Civil Partnerships

Overall Impact

Result:

Neutral

Justification for Impact

Further Actions Required

Positive Impacts Identified

Negative Impacts Identified



WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

As a general rule, if your policy has the potential to impact on people, it will impact in some way on Welsh speakers and therefore on the Welsh language.

On 10 July 2017, the First Minister and the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language launched their strategy Cymraeg 2050 A million Welsh speakers. The vision of the strategy is to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050 where "The Welsh language is thriving, the number of speakers has reached a million, and it is used in every aspect of life. Among those who do not speak Welsh there is goodwill and a sense of ownership towards the language and a recognition by all of its contribution to the culture, society and economy of Wales." The strategy identifies that the challenge of achieving a million Welsh speakers by 2050 calls for far-reaching changes. Three strategic themes have been identified within the strategy to achieve its vision:

- Increasing the number of Welsh speakers;
- Increasing the use of Welsh; and
- Creating favourable conditions infrastructure and context.

Does the proposal align with Welsh Government strategy for the Welsh language - Cymraeg 2050: A national strategy for increasing the number of Welsh speakers to a million by 2050

YES



NO



Describe and explain the impact of the proposal on the Welsh Language, and explain how you will address these impacts in order to improve outcomes for the Welsh Language?

Overall Impact

Result:

Positive

Justification for Impact

The project's target area has a large proportion of Welsh speakers particularly in rural areas and access to facilities to support innovation will be extended from the current mainly urban areas where there are proportionately fewer Welsh speakers. Its effect in strengthening the economy therefore has the potential to have a positive impact on the Welsh Language.

Further Actions Required

None

Positive Impacts Identified

Positive Impacts Identified

Greater technology innovation within Welsh speaking communities supporting longer term economic sustainability and capacity building

Negative Impacts Identified

None

How will you mitigate any negative impact on the Welsh language or promote the positive impact on the language?

Cymraeg 2050 Strategy Themes

Yes

No

N/A

Does the proposal have the potential to increase the number of Welsh Speakers?

Workforce, Resources, Qualifications?

☐

☒

☐

If the policy has the potential to decrease the number of Welsh speaker outline steps to mitigate the adverse effect

Provide details to support this

Does the proposal encourage the use of Welsh?

Opportunities in the Workplace, Services or Social use of Welsh

☒

☐

☐

Provide details to support this

The project will be delivered by the region's local authorities which deliver services according to their Welsh Language policies and actively promote and support the use of Welsh.
Engagement with businesses and communities will be undertaken which encourages the use of Welsh.



Does the proposal look to create favourable conditions - Infrastructure and context?

Community & Economy, Culture & Media, Wales & the wider world, Digital technology, Linguistic infrastructure, Language planning, Evaluation & Research.



Provide details to support this

The project will principally deliver improvements in digital infrastructure across the region, including across predominantly Welsh speaking communities