

Snowdonia National Park Authority



Cynllun Eryri (Snowdonia National Park Partnership Management Plan) Draft Plan

**Equality Impact Assessment –
Screening November 2019**

Equality Impact Assessments

The National Park Authority is required by the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duties to make arrangements in order to assess the likely impact of proposed policies and practices on our ability to comply with the general duty, as well as the impact of any policy or practice that we have decided to review or any proposed revision to a policy or practice.

For each new policy or practice (or revision of an existing policy or practice) the authority will assess the likely impact for its effect on people who share protected characteristics by undertaking an initial screening assessment.

If the policy or practice is considered likely to have an impact, a full Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken and an assessment report will be produced. Each assessment report will include the following information:

- *the purpose of the policy or practice being assessed whether that is a new policy or an existing policy that is being reviewed or revised;*
- *a summary of the steps taken to assess the likely impact of the proposed or revised policy or practice;*
- *a summary of the evidence considered as part of the assessment process;*
- *the results of the assessment; and*
- *any decisions taken following the assessment.*

The Welsh Language

Even though the Welsh language is not considered a protected characteristic under the legislation, the Authority believes that the people of Wales should not suffer any discrimination because of either their use of the Welsh language or their wish to communicate through the medium of Welsh. This is especially relevant within Snowdonia National Park boundary, where 59% of the population are Welsh speakers.

Appendix 1 provides an initial screening of the Draft Cynllun Eryri Plan, which will be going out for public consultation in early in 2020.

Appendix 2 considers each of the Action Plan's headline outcomes and policies for the final Plan, providing a summary on whether it is considered the outcome (and the policies which sit beneath) is likely to have a major impact on people with a protected characteristic. This initial assessment needs to be viewed side by side with the draft Plan document, as the specific actions within the Plan have also been taken into consideration in the screening process, although they are too many in number to list individually in the assessment.

This is a working document, which will be updated during and after the consultation period to take into account the responses received.

Appendix 1

Equality Impact Assessment Screening:

Key Questions

1. What is being assessed and what is its main purpose?

Please note the name of the strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice to be assessed and a brief narrative of its main purpose or aim.

The National Park Authority is required by law to prepare a Plan to provide effective management of Snowdonia for the future.

The final Plan will set out how all parties will work together to look after Snowdonia National Park for future generations. It will enable the Authority, in conjunction with its partners, to set a clear direction and put plans in place for the future of the area. When implemented, Cynllun Eryri will help achieve national park purposes, as well as deliver on a number of significant Welsh Government policy objectives, goals and priorities; the most significant of these being the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The draft Plan (on which this assessment is based) brings together the results of the initial consultation work and data analysis, along with the results of the comprehensive public consultation that took place over 12 weeks in the summer of 2018, and the outcomes from the expert panel events that took place following the consultation. Since this time, the information received has been gathered, consolidated and refined in the action planning workshops.

This screening has been undertaken on the headline Outcomes and Policies for the final Plan. These are structured into three parts:

1. National Park Statutory Purpose 1: Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.
Eryri's Environment: caring for our natural and historic assets and stunning surroundings.
2. National Park Statutory Purpose 2: Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.
Eryri's Health and Well-being: Opportunities to learn and discover, and at the same time improve our well-being.
3. National Park duty through carrying out the above purposes: Seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park.
Eryri's Communities and Economy: A great place to develop, live and work.

2. Who is affected by this strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice? Who is it intended to benefit and how?

The final Plan will affect everyone who lives, works, and uses the National Park recreationally. This includes (not in any order of priority):

1. Residents – people who live and work within Snowdonia National Park such as landowners, land managers, owners and employees of all types of local businesses, owners and employees in the hospitality industry and owners and employees in the outdoor recreation sector.
2. Visitors – people who visit Snowdonia, either as day visitors, short breaks or as part of a longer holiday. These people come from all corners of the UK as well as from all parts of the world.
3. Stakeholders – public authorities, private companies and third sector organisations who are responsible for the long term future of Snowdonia National Park and its residents.

The final Plan will affect all of these people, as it will set a strategic policy framework for the future management of the National Park. It is therefore important that everyone has the opportunity to input and shape the final Plan through the Plan production process.

3. Have those people who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice been consulted and given an opportunity to respond? If not, has it been promoted and explained to those people who will be affected?

In 2018, initial consultation work was carried out to get a feel for the key issues and opportunities affecting Snowdonia National Park. This 'opinion gathering' process was undertaken through events and shows, speaking to community councils, holding an on-line survey and holding detailed discussions and workshops with partners and with the Equality Forum sub-group. In addition, a detailed analysis of all current data was carried out.

Following this, the first public consultation was undertaken, which enabled a wider audience to have an input into what the final Plan would look like. During the 12 week consultation period over the summer months of 2018:

- 644 written responses were received;
- 64% of responses were from people who live and / or work in the National Park;
- The roadshow visit 6 different locations within the National Park;
- 115 people attended the Expert Panel events;
- The consultation video was viewed 44,362 times;
- Social Media reached 131,597 individuals;
- And 6 local and national news articles were published.

The responses received from the above have been consolidated and refined in action planning workshops, which has resulted in a draft Plan, which will go out to consultation in the first few months of 2020.

4. Are there opportunities within the strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice to promote equality and is there an opportunity to promote positive attitudes towards people who share protected characteristics and promote good relations between different groups and communities?

Yes, there will be numerous opportunities within the final Plan to promote equality of opportunity and to increase understanding between different groups of people.
As a Partnership Plan, co-operative working with a cross section of organisations and communities within (and outside) the National Park is a core feature.

5. Could this strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice affect negatively and disproportionately any of the groups below?

Different Age Groups

The draft Plan is non-discriminatory in terms of age. The proposed outcomes, policies and associated actions has the potential to have a positive effect on various age groups.

Working-age people and young people in particular will receive a positive benefit from the proposed way forward under C2. Proposals to support the local economy, which in turn will assist in developing quality jobs, will help young people to stay in the area. Supporting business start-ups, having the right infrastructure in place, developing sustainable all year round tourism and high quality tourism offerings etc., will all assist in economic development locally.

Data in 2014 shows that 4.1% of Gwynedd and 5.6% of Conwy were within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales, so any improvements in the local economy and the quality of jobs will have a positive effect.

In addition, the work proposed under the environment heading to conserve and protect the environment and habitats, reverse the decline in biodiversity, counteract climate change, improve carbon storage etc., can also have the potential to develop the local economy by creating new job opportunities. Currently 38% of jobs in Snowdonia are linked to the environment. There are opportunities to further develop specialised skills locally for this sector, which again will be of benefit to young people.

Improving affordable housing availability within the National Park will benefit all local residents, but will in particular help younger people to stay in the area, rather than move away.

In addition, with an ageing population (25.2% of Snowdonia's population is aged over 65), the proposed way forward regarding improving health through encouraging use of the National Park recreationally through social prescribing etc., will be of benefit to this group in particular, who tend to have higher rates of lifestyle-related conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease and Type 2 diabetes.

No negative effects towards any particular age group have been identified within the draft Plan document.

Gender

The draft Plan is not discriminatory in terms of sex.

Life expectancy between men and women has narrowed, with the age gap in Gwynedd currently 3 years (80 male / 83.5 female). The population of Snowdonia is fairly evenly balanced (49.8% male / 50.2% female); therefore the proposals within this document are not likely to adversely affect one sex over another.

Historically, females tend to occupy more part-time positions than males and there is a demonstrable pay gap in these roles. The proposals on the way forward in the document with regard to economic development through creating more higher quality jobs etc., has the potential to positively impact female employment.

In general, none of the proposals on the way forward are aimed at a specific gender and will therefore have a neutral impact.

Disability

There is nothing within the draft Plan document that is likely to discriminate against, disadvantage or unfairly affect disabled people. Some of the proposals have the potential to have positive benefits for people who have a range of impairments.

Data in Gwynedd and Conwy shows that 8.9% of adults report that they are being treated for mental health problems. In the UK each year, it is estimated that 25% of people have mental health needs, with the most common issues being anxiety and depression. This reflects the picture in Wales, with 20% of the Welsh NHS budget being spent on mental health services. However, the very long waiting times for access to these services suggests that the actual number of people with mental health related issues is actually far higher than the official data shows.

Research shows that regular physical activity is good for physical health on a wide range of factors and is proven to have a positive impact upon mental health, with positive benefits being reported for some who have been diagnosed with anxiety and / or depression. Some people with lifestyle-related conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure and Type 2 diabetes can also benefit from physical activity in the outdoors, which over the long term could see improvement in their health and well-being. Physical activity is also a great way for people to connect with others. By increasing the accessibility of the National Park, and by taking advantage of what it has to offer through social prescribing etc., people will be able to improve their overall health and well-being.

Proposals for improving accessibility of paths and improving infrastructure will be of benefit to disabled people in particular, as it will lead to opening up more opportunities for people to enjoy the National Park.

In addition, continued learning throughout life enhances self-esteem and encourages social interaction and a more active life. Evidence shows that the opportunity to engage in work or educational activities particularly helps to lift people out of depression. The practice of setting goals, which are related to adult learning in particular, has been strongly associated with higher levels of well-being. In addition, participation in social and community life has attracted a lot of attention in the field of well-being research. Individuals who report a greater interest in helping others are more likely to rate themselves as happy. Proposals to increase community and volunteer involvement in environmental and cultural projects will therefore have the potential to increase people's confidence through contact with new people and developing new skills and experience.

Other proposals such as improving broadband connectivity and reviewing public transport systems have the potential to have a positive influence on disabled people. Statistically, disabled people are more likely to be in a position of not having their own transport, more likely to be unemployed and living in poverty and more likely to be socially isolated, especially if they have a physical impairment. All these proposals have the potential to remove barriers for disabled people.

Race

The proposals within the draft Plan document are not likely to have an adverse effect on any Black, Asian or minority ethnic groups (BAME).

The local population is mostly white, with only 2.4% of Gwynedd and 1.7% of Conwy residents being of a non-white background, which is much lower than the overall UK percentage of 14% from BAME groups (ONS Data).

Although we have ample data on visitor numbers, we do not have a breakdown of visitors by ethnicity, therefore no accurate figures are available. However, with 3.89 million people visiting Snowdonia National Park in 2015, the area is likely to have a much higher percentage of visitors from BAME groups than the local population.

Religion

The proposals are not likely to have an adverse effect on any particular religious groups or people who have no religion.

Sexual Orientation

It is not anticipated that the proposals are likely to have an adverse effect on this group.

Pregnancy and Maternity

It is not anticipated that the proposals are likely to have an adverse effect on this group.

Marriage and Civil Partnership – No

No potential adverse impacts have been identified within the proposals on this group.

Welsh Language – No

The proposals within the draft Plan are likely have a positive impact on the Welsh language, as it has been identified as an important part of the cultural heritage of the area, which needs to be protected. Currently, 58.6% of the population are Welsh speakers, making Snowdonia a stronghold for the language. However, this figure is in decline, having gone down 3.5% since 2001.

Part of this work, will be the positive promotion of the Welsh language as an important element of what makes Snowdonia National Park special. By celebrating the Welsh language and encouraging visitors to appreciate and embrace it, this will hopefully develop their understanding and respect towards it.

In addition, work that contributes to the sustainable development of the economy is likely to have a positive effect on the language, through better opportunities for young people to have local sustainable employment. Young people bought up through Welsh medium education are more likely to remain in their local communities and will be able to bring their own children up with Welsh as their mother tongue, if good quality sustainable employment and affordable housing is available locally.

6. How will the strategy, policy, plan, procedure or practice be monitored?

Following a comprehensive public consultation at the start of 2020, the information and feedback gathered from the responses will determine if any changes are required to the draft Plan. Accordingly, this Equality Impact Screening will be updated to take into account any such changes. In addition, any new evidence emerging from the consultation responses which identify any potential negative impacts will also be taken into consideration when reviewing the Equality Impact Assessment screening.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

There is no indication that the proposals on the way forward listed under the three key headline outcomes will have any adverse effects on people from any of the protected groups.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

The National Survey for Wales

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the Plan as a result of the screening process.

No changes required at this stage.

APPENDIX 2 ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A1:

Any negative impacts of recreational activities on the National Park are being reduced.

Policies:

A1.1: Develop guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape. The principles will define when further action in the form of an areas based management plan is required.

A1.2: Ensure that uplands paths are well maintained to manage the impacts of erosion and prioritise work based on the number of footpath users.

A1.3. Take pragmatic action to reduce litter in Snowdonia.

A1.4: Reduce the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape.

A1.5: Negative impacts of recreation are being mitigated.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to implement measures and actions to mitigate any negative impacts caused by the recreational use of the National Park, due mainly to the high visitor numbers.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

There is the potential to have a positive impact on some people with protected characteristics.

Considering viable options for the re-distribution of visitors to quieter areas will need to be done in close partnership with local communities who would welcome increased visitors. It is important that efforts are made to seek the views of the whole community, including people who are hard to reach, so that the effects of increased visitors (both positive and negative) are fully considered before moving forward with any firm plans.

Re-distributing visitors to increase numbers in quieter areas will boost the local economy, especially if this can be extended outside of the main season. Creating more sustainable permanent employment for some of the current seasonal jobs will benefit young people in particular, as this may help them stay in their local community.

Any desire for increased numbers of visitors in a local community will require a proper assessment of current facilities in place for those visitors, especially in terms of parking and transport. As seen in other areas of the National Park, lack of sufficient official car parking can lead to visitors parking inappropriately on roads and pavements. Apart from the obvious safety issues that this causes, disabled people in particular are especially vulnerable to these effects as access in and around the local community can be impeded.

Maintenance of paths to repair the footfall erosion around the National Park is one of the biggest challenges of high visitor numbers, along with the maintenance of associated facilities in and around these areas. One of the actions is to provide training to create a skilled local contractor base. Again, this has the potential to help sustain high quality local jobs, which would benefit young people in particular who wish to remain in their local communities.

Overall, the policies and associated outcomes for Outcome A1 have the potential to benefit local residents.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes made to the Plan, however, potential issues identified above need to be taken into full consideration when implementing the actions within the Plan.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A2:

The ongoing decline in biodiversity is being addressed through the maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity of Section 7 habitats and species.

Policies:

A2.1: Co-ordinate an ambitious public goods scheme that focuses on maintaining, restoring and expanding section 7 habitats, and species, historic environment features and wider public goods.

A2.2: Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and activities to improve connectivity.

A2.3: Ensure that water quality and the marine environment are maintained and enhanced.

A2.4: Restore, expand and improve the resilience and species mixture of native trees and woodlands.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to protect and conserve the natural environment and to mitigate against biodiversity loss.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

As these policies and associated actions are aimed at taking direct action to protect the natural environment and to conserve native habitats and biodiversity, no direct impact on any protected groups has been identified.

Only one action has a direct impact on individuals, and that is to 'up-skill the local workforce in order to successfully deliver the scheme'. Any direct training that takes place which results in giving new and enhanced skills to people within the local communities, will be of benefit to the local economy and will assist young people in particular to secure sustainable jobs and stay in their communities.

Protecting and conserving the natural environment and biodiversity will also require people who are specialists, to draw up plans and put them in place. Currently, it is difficult to recruit for specialist roles within the National Park.

Statistics show that 26.4% of Gwynedd residents have qualification levels of Level 4 or above, whilst Conwy residents is 38%. Work will need to continue to encourage young people to advance with STEM subjects and to consider careers in this field, as they will be required to ensure the long term results of this work. Success would mean more long term highly skilled professional positions available locally, to help young people in particular to stay or return to their local communities.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A3:

Snowdonia is addressing climate change through carbon reduction and carbon storage and sequestration schemes.

Policies:

A3.1: Reduce the carbon emissions of Snowdonia National Park.

A3.2: Safeguard and increase the amount of carbon stored in Snowdonia.

A3.3: Implement climate change mitigation measures.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to implement actions which reduce carbon emissions and mitigate against climate change.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

As these policies and associated actions are aimed at taking direct action to reduce carbon emissions, no direct impact on any protected groups has been identified.

The action to 'implement green transport and travel measures' is set out in policy B4.1, and will be considered further in the document.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A4:

Snowdonia is at the forefront internationally in successfully tackling invasive species, pests and diseases that impact on native species.

Policies:

A4.1: Raise awareness with the public on how they can take action to prevent the establishment and spread of invasive species.

A4.2: Work to ensure that invasive species control is included in any new public goods / agri-environment scheme.

A4.3: Continue to expand partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species.

A4.4: Expand on actions to tackle pests and diseases that affect native species.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to implement actions to conserve the natural beauty of the landscape, specifically by controlling and eradicating invasive species.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

As these policies and associated actions are aimed specifically at taking direct action to control and eradicate invasive species, no direct impact on any protected groups has been identified.

If funding can be secured, it will benefit the local economy through business opportunities for local contractors. The estimated cost of controlling the rhododendron in the National Park alone is £10 million.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A5:

Communities, businesses and visitors are engaged and play an active role in caring for the National Park's landscapes, habitats, wildlife and cultural heritage.

Policies:

A5.1: Seek opportunities for local communities, schools, hard to reach and disadvantaged groups to engage with, and learn about, Eryri's environment and cultural heritage, and how they can help care for it.

A5.2: Support, promote and deliver volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage.

A5.3: Deliver measures under Outcome B3 that - through information, marketing and branding - further engage stakeholders in caring for the National Parks' environment.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to engage people with the work of conserving the special qualities of the National Park.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

There is potential for a significant positive impact on protected groups by implementing these policies and associated actions.

Ensuring direct engagement with all sections of the community will ensure that everybody is given a fair chance to learn about, appreciate, and help care for the environment and cultural heritage of Snowdonia. This is especially important for hard to reach groups who are more likely to be in poverty and to suffer social exclusion. Continued learning through life enhances self-esteem and encourages social interaction and a more active life. Evidence shows that the opportunity to engage in educational activities also helps people who have depression. The practice of setting goals, which is related to adult learning in particular, has been strongly associated with higher levels of well-being.

In the same way, enhancing on the current offer and further developing volunteering opportunities that are available, has the potential to have a positive impact on disadvantaged people and people who have protected characteristics.

In implementing this policy, partner organisations require a range of volunteering opportunities to ensure there are appropriate opportunities available for all levels of ability and to meet the motives and expectations of participants. For example, some people volunteer to enjoy social interaction and new experiences with new people, and are less interested in developing new skills. Others volunteer to make a difference, and for these people it is important to see at the end of the day what their efforts have achieved. Others volunteer to gain valuable skills and experience which would hopefully lead to acceptance on educational qualification courses or to gain employment. A varied offering of opportunities is therefore required to suit all needs. Volunteering is a two way process, and if this policy is to have a positive effect on people who have protected characteristics, partner organisations need to make sure that volunteers are valued and get something meaningful out of the work.

In addition, developing volunteering and work experience opportunities for school children and young people will also be beneficial in encouraging them to think of the skills and knowledge required to work in the environmental field, and the range of career choices available in this sector.

There is ample evidence from the field of well-being research that demonstrates that people who participate in social and community life report a greater interest in helping others and are more likely to rate themselves as happy.

However, to enable the above, any engagement with the local community will need to include proactive actions from partner organisations to ensure that people who are hard to reach, disadvantaged and / or from protected groups are reached and are given a fair opportunity to engage and take part. These are the people who are likely to gain most from getting involved. This should include (amongst other things) using various channels for communication and interaction, using guidelines set out in the Plain English and Cymraeg Clir in any written information and considering easy read versions of documents.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes made to the Plan, however, issues identified regarding inclusion above need to be taken into full consideration when implementing the actions within the Plan.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A6:

Snowdonia is a leading example in Wales of how to care for and champion cultural heritage and the historic environment. Features are understood, protected and enhanced.

Policies:

A6.1: Support the repair and restoration of listed buildings and bring them back into use through sympathetic development.

A6.2: Support owners of Scheduled Ancient Monuments to better safeguard them.

A6.3: Develop and implement landscape scale projects which benefit the historic environment.

A6.4: Deliver measures under Policy A5.1 to engage stakeholders with the historic environment.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to take measures and actions to protect the cultural heritage and historic environment of the National Park, focusing on traditional and listed buildings and ancient monuments. Also included is work to engage with people to enhance their awareness and understanding.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

In implementing some of the actions under these policies, there is a potential for positive effects for some people with protected characteristics.

One of the actions is to 'develop traditional skills' which are required for the restoration of traditional and listed buildings. There are currently 377 scheduled monuments and 1,916 listed buildings within the National Park.

Enhancing and improving the skills of various trades in the building industry to include traditional building methods, adds value to their work as it is considered a specialist skill. This has the potential to help younger people in particular to be able to secure good quality jobs locally, and

also to increase salary levels. In 2015, the average (median) gross wage in Gwynedd was £415 and £474 in Conwy, which is lower than the Wales average of £479.

Another action to 'Develop projects that improve access to the historic environment' has the potential to benefit disabled people and those who require level access such as parents with pushchairs. It has been proved many times that innovative solutions can be put in place in historic buildings to improve access into and within the building without affecting the traditional features. However for this to be successful, consultation is required at the start of the design stage, to ensure that the proposed changes are suitable.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome A7:

Distinctive landscapes, character types and the Special Qualities, including areas of tranquillity are being protected and enhanced.

Policies:

A7.1: Through the Local Development Plan improve the appropriate setting and location of development in the landscape.

A7.2: Through the Local Development Plan, ensure that major new developments safeguard views into and out of the National Park.

A7.3: The Local Development Plan contains clear guidance for inappropriate major infrastructure development such as above ground power cable within the boundary and where possible encourage the undergrounding of inappropriately located existing lines.

A7.4: Through the Local Development Plan, ensure that lighting in new developments takes account of the International dark Sky Reserve status.

A7.5: Ensure that regional strategic and spatial plans, projects and programmes make reference to, and recognise the importance of Snowdonia National Park.

A7.6: Reduce the negative impacts of recreation on the landscape through implementation of A1.

A7.7: Protect and enhance the natural and historic environment through implementing Policy A2.1.

A7.8: Protect and enhance Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Sites (RIGS) and general geodiversity.

A7.9: Encourage reductions in the number of low flying activities taking place over Snowdonia.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure that the unique landscape of the National Park is protected, by ensuring sensitive and appropriate developments in the correct places.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

The revised Eryri Local Development Plan was adopted in February 2019, after undergoing a rigorous Examination process. The Plan also underwent the Equality Impact Assessment screening process at various key points through the process.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report
Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document
ONS Data
Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment
Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment
Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)
North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome B1:

Partners, health services and Public Service Boards are collaborating on, and promoting the benefits of environment based well-being schemes. As a result, the health of the North Wales population is improving and the National Park is increasingly recognised as a place for improving the well-being of local people, Welsh population and all who visit Snowdonia.

Policies:

B1.1: Expand work with partners, health services, Public Service Boards through social prescribing schemes.

B1.2: Promote and enable a diverse range of activities that improve people's well-being.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure the National Park is seen as, and used as a place which can improve the health and well-being of people.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

There is potential for a significant positive impact on protected groups by implementing these policies and associated actions.

While social prescribing schemes have become increasingly commonplace across the UK, the Welsh NHS Confederation notes that there is a noticeable gap in the literature focusing on the impact of these schemes and there is mixed evidence about how effective they are.

One example where such analysis has been carried out was in Rotherham, who reported a 20% reduction in the number of A&E attendees, a 21% reduction in the number of outpatients and a 21% reduction in the number of inpatients, when follow up meetings were conducted with participants 3 – 4 months later.

The nation's deteriorating health has been of concern for a number of years, and the picture within the National Park reflects this. 53% of Gwynedd and Conwy residents are obese. Obesity increases the risk of high blood pressure, heart attacks, strokes and Type 2 diabetes as well as some cancers. 8.9% of adults in Gwynedd and Conwy report that they are being treated for

mental health issues. However, the true figure for how many people are experiencing mental health issues is likely to be far higher. In 2018/19, only 78% of Gwynedd residents and 77% of Conwy residents rated their own health as good or very good.

One of the actions is to 'Gather data on the barriers people face to taking part' which will be an essential first step. The success of these schemes depends on understanding these barriers and tackling these, and giving sufficient support over the long-term to enable people to take part. This is more likely to have a positive effect on the participants, as one of the important measurements of success is adherence rates.

This work is likely to have a positive effect on protected groups. Research suggests that people from ethnic minority groups are less likely to take the recommended amount of weekly exercise. Evidence also suggests that people identifying as LGBT are at a higher risk of experiencing mental health issues. Other protected groups are also more susceptible to experiencing mental health issues due to various factors such as discrimination, isolation and poverty. Policies included here are directly targeting these important statistics such as "Encourage opportunities for socialising in the natural environment to help reduce social isolation" and "Facilitate activities for disadvantaged groups within the National Park to cultivate an understanding of the Special Qualities".

Another one of the actions is to 'Develop volunteering opportunities for disabled people – wherever possible'. This has the potential to have a positive impact on this protected group.

As noted previously under outcome A5, a range of different volunteering opportunities need to be available to suit different abilities and to satisfy different reasons for volunteering. For example, some participants' motivation is to find employment, as employment rates for disabled people in Wales is less than half of that for people who are not disabled, so learning new skills as well demonstrating current skills, gaining experience etc., may be very important. For others, the social side of volunteering will be more important, and so on.

For this action to be implemented successfully, careful consideration of the barriers disabled people face to participating such as transport, will have to be taken into consideration and overcome.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

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National Survey for Wales

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required. However, work will need to be done to recognise and overcome barriers that people face in taking part to enable successful implementation of this policy.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome B2:

An expansion in the number of high quality, accessible promoted routes, community loops and links, heritage trails and multi-user trails, which provide daily opportunities for the local population and visitors to stay physically and mentally healthy, and appreciate what makes the National Park special.

Policies:

B2.1: Create a plan and focus resources on promoting, developing and maintaining well-marked long distance trails, accessible trails, multi user trails (particularly cycling trails and mountain bike routes), promoted routes and links and loops between towns and villages.

B2.2: Ensure that Right of Way work is effectively prioritised and that responsibilities and standards are clear, with the SNPA focusing its resources and funding on multi-user trails and upland paths.

B2.3: Improve access opportunities for disabled people and socially excluded groups.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure that measure and actions are taken to maintain, improve and expand upon the paths and trails available within the National Park.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

These policies should have a significant positive effect on protected groups of people as well as the general population.

Research shows that regular physical activity is good for physical health on a wide range of factors and is proven to have a positive impact upon mental health. Physical activity is also a great way for people to connect with others. Only 53% of people in Wales undertook at least 150 minutes of physical exercise every week in 2018/19. By increasing the accessibility of the National Park footpath network, and by encouraging people to take advantage of them, people will be able to make a positive contribution to improving their own health and well-being.

One of the important actions under this outcome is to work with targeted groups from the very outset, to ensure that all relevant considerations for user needs are incorporated at the design phase. This will ensure a more efficient process, as requirements are known from the start and can be given full consideration to ensure practical workable solutions are built into the path design to overcome where possible terrain and landscape issues. This should mean that designs are fit for purpose.

Another important action is to conduct research into the barriers faced by disabled people and excluded groups in accessing the National Park. Part of this work will need to consider the facilities currently available around the paths (accessible parking, toilet facilities) as well as public transport availability as these are very important aspects as to why people cannot currently access the Park.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

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North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)
National Survey for Wales

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome B3:

Through improved consistency of marketing and branding across the sector, Eryri is recognised internationally for its Special Qualities, including its culture, heritage and language; a wide range of outdoor activities; stunning landscapes; warm welcome and ecotourism.

Policies:

B3.1: Develop a brand marketing strategy for Snowdonia based on the Special Qualities that is consistently implemented across the public and private sectors.

B3.2: Encourage visitors to come at different times of year and to different areas, in order to ease pressure during the peak season and help businesses with seasonality issues.

B3.3: Using the brand marketing strategy as a foundation, develop a shared plan with partners on the information we provide to visitors, with an emphasis on the Special Qualities and behavioural change.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure a cohesive sustainable approach is adopted by all stakeholders across the National Park to managing tourism and its effects.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

An adopted branding strategy along with an interpretation plan will ensure that consistent messages are given out by all partner organisations. This can be extended to local businesses who can act as brand ambassadors.

An important aspect of this work is to emphasise Snowdonia's cultural and historical identity, to encourage visitors to think beyond outdoor activities when they visit. This work can extend the visitor season, promoting Snowdonia as a winter resort with additional year round attractions to enjoy. This will have a positive effect on the local economy, with the potential to create more permanent posts rather than the traditional seasonal positions prevalent in the tourism sector. This will benefit young people especially, enabling them to stay locally rather than move away to look for work.

Communication will be a key element in ensuring that the branding strategy works. The actions that investigate what type of information and in what format is suitable for the target audience will be very important. Getting the right mix of both traditional and modern formats is essential, to ensure amongst other things that people aren't excluded from getting correct information. Another important element is ensuring inclusive access to any information material produced, for example, the choice of graphics, font style and size etc.,

Whilst a great many people use the internet as a source of information and a way of researching the area before visiting, anecdotally we know that people often prefer human contact to receive advice either face-to-face or over the telephone. Information centre staff report that people contact them to check that online information is correct and up to date before visiting. In addition, it is also important to remember that not all people are able to access the internet easily or do not have the skills required to use the resources online effectively. Quite often these people are the most socially excluded in society.

Another important aspect of this work is to give out educational information to visitors. Through consistent messages about conservation as well as responsible use of Snowdonia; there is a potential to have a positive effect on various groups of people.

Many visitors from large urban areas in particular, often have little understanding and appreciation of conservation issues and problems caused by visitor numbers – this can be especially true for younger people. Any work that will enhance their understanding, particularly in visitor effects and responsible use of the National Park, can only be a good thing.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

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If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes identified.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome B4:

Organisations and communities are working together to develop and implement innovative and integrated options for sustainable parking and transport.

Policies:

B4.1: Improve the sustainability and availability of transport for visitors and residents and address parking problems.

B4.2: Explore and implement opportunities to encourage greener transport.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to enable all stakeholders to work together to address one of the biggest issues which impacts the National Park – parking and transport.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

This outcome aims to address one of the biggest issues that faces the National Park, which is parking and transport. Parking capacity is a major problem, especially around the honey pot sites in the north of the Park. The overriding principle of conservation and protection of the National Park means that expanding current facilities such as car parks in sensitive areas is not always an option. When temporary car parks are considered in fields etc., it is important to consider the restriction this may pose for blue badge holders who may be affected by the rough and uneven surface of a field, especially if the car park is near an accessible path or route. Ensuring sufficient parking for blue badge holders in the principle car parks is therefore very important under such circumstances.

Bringing people together to find sustainable and innovative solutions will be essential. A key component of this will be to ensure adequate public transport and park and ride services, and how these can be sustained through securing adequate revenue.

With reference to other outcomes within Cynllun Eryri which look at improving access and improving health and wellbeing, an important factor to consider is ensuring buses are accessible to disabled people, people with children and older people, to ensure they can access the

National Park and get to the start of accessible routes etc. Buses also need to be reliable and frequent as well as affordable, to ensure that they are a viable option for most people. Welsh Government is currently in the process of reviewing free buses passes for people over 60 years old, with one option being to change eligibility to pensionable age, which will have an impact on people who are utilising this service.

The same considerations also need to be applied to any park and ride schemes, in terms of adequate blue badge parking and accessible buses.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

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Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document
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If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No need to amend the policies, but adequate consideration of the issue highlighted above need to be addressed in individual projects of this type.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome B5:

Visitor facilities, accommodation and activities are of increasingly high quality. They meet and exceed the expectations of our customers, are landscape sensitive, and reflect the special character of the area.

Policies:

B5.1: Visitor facilities are sufficiently funded and invested in to achieve and exceed the expectations of visitors.

B5.2: We support activities that complement the Special Qualities of Snowdonia - in particular tranquillity - and that divert visitors to the autumn and winter in order to address seasonality and pressures in high season.

B5.3: High quality, landscape appropriate accommodation, meets the expectations and demand of visitors and is helping to increase spend per head.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure sustainable tourism for the long term which provides positive benefits for the local economy whilst providing a high quality offering to visitors.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

This outcome and associated policies has the potential to have a positive impact on employment locally through an improvement in the local economy. Developing winter tourism through improved services and facilities such as high quality accommodation, restaurants, indoor leisure facilities etc., has not only the potential to maximise on all year round tourism, but to also capitalise on premium pricing and to increase spend per head. As stated earlier, this has the potential to help young people especially, to gain sustainable non seasonal employment, which will help them stay in the local area.

One of the actions is to assess the sustainability and viability of expanding the Information Centres into community / well-being hubs. Although they are few in number across the National Park, they are located in populated areas which has easier access to public transport. For some people who are socially excluded and / or have protected characteristics, this development may

facilitate easier access, as it may remove some of the barriers to taking part in activities and events which promote good health and improved well-being.

As noted in other screening assessments, any future improvements to services and facilities requires input from service users at the outset, to ensure that suitable access improvements are incorporated into the initial design. This may be a challenge for the Plan's partners to ensure that local businesses understand how important this is when deciding upon improving and / or expanding their businesses. The development management process should be able to have influence in this regard, when businesses are applying for planning permission.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

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Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document
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Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)
North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required to the policies.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome C1:

The language, culture and heritage of Snowdonia is being celebrated, supported and strengthened.

Policies:

C1.1: Promote understanding, enjoyment and protection of the Welsh language and culture.

C1.2: Provide opportunities for Welsh learners in the area.

C1.3: Protect Welsh place names.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to adopt measures and actions which promote and strengthen the Welsh language – one of the unique Special Qualities of the National Park.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

This outcome and associated policies are likely to have a positive effect on the Welsh language and Welsh speakers.

Although not listed as protected under the Equality Act 2010, it is Welsh Government policy to have 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. In addition, it has long been a defining part of Snowdonia National Park Authority's organisational culture, ensuring on all occasions that people get the service in their language of choice.

Although one of the stronghold areas for the language, the Welsh language is nonetheless under some threat within Snowdonia. Outward migration of young people combined with inward migration of mainly older people who come here to retire affects the numbers and percentages of Welsh speakers in the area. In addition, there are a number of additional complicated factors why people choose to learn or not to learn and speak Welsh.

Any policies and associated actions which supports and promotes community events, creates opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and creates opportunities for Welsh learners and speakers to socialise, can only be a positive thing.

The action to promote initiatives which encourages people who move into the area to learn Welsh is to be applauded. However, as a starting point, implementing actions to emphasise and raise awareness of the cultural importance of the Welsh language to those people is required, so as to ensure they develop a basic level of respect for the language and the speakers, which sadly is all too often lacking. For many people who move into the area they will not realistically learn Welsh, but if they at least learn the importance of the language and the role it plays in the cultural identity of other local residents, it will assist with improved community cohesion.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

Data Sources listed in the Initial Consultation Document

ONS Data

Anglesey and Gwynedd Well-being Assessment

Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment

Is Wales Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2018 (Equality and Human Rights Commission)

North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes identified.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome C2:

Young people have the opportunity to settle in the area as a result of high quality job and business opportunities, linked to the environment and Special Qualities of the National Park.

Policies:

C2.1: Communication infrastructure in the area is being improved for businesses and communities in a way that does not compromise the landscape.

C2.2: Support and promote training, employment and business opportunities related to - or complementing - the National Parks 1st purpose and Special Qualities including environment related sectors.

C2.3: Support and promote training, employment and business opportunities relating to or complementing the National Park's second purpose and Special Qualities, and the health and well-being theme.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to develop actions and measures to strengthen the local economy in a sustainable way.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

There is a potential for a significant positive impact on protected groups by implementing these policies and associated actions.

Limited employment opportunities is the major factor affecting young people in particular in Snowdonia. Very often, their decision to stay or move away from their community is dependent on whether they are able to gain secure employment locally.

Developing economic policies and associated actions which would assist with developing a range of employment on every level in different sectors, but with an emphasis on secure, long term employment as opposed to seasonal jobs and zero hours contracts, can only have benefits for the whole population. Data in 2014 shows that 4.1% of Gwynedd and 5.6% of Conwy were within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales.

Thriving local communities require a good mix of all ages, and indirectly these projects and actions should contribute to this. Statistics show that local communities are losing a significant percentage of young people, whilst the older generation is increasing as a percentage, due in some part to Snowdonia being an attractive retirement destination.

Redressing the balance will benefit the local economy, as there will be more working people using local services and businesses. The wider economic impact this could potentially create is not to be underestimated.

In addition, any initiatives that improve digital connectivity will also benefit people who are socially isolated. Some people with protected characteristics such as disabled people and older people in particular are more susceptible to being socially isolated. Factors such as not having access to a vehicle, poor public transport, living in rural areas etc., can mean that opportunities to leave the home are very limited.

In 2018/19 The National Survey for Wales reported that only 63% of Gwynedd's residents compared to 81% of Conwy's residents were satisfied with their ability to get access to / access facilities and services they need. The larger rural pockets of Gwynedd (which are in the National Park) are likely to be a factor for this result.

In 2018/19, 87% of households across Wales have access to the internet, with 89% of adults having use of the internet. However, this still leaves a significant number who would like access but do not currently have it. Although improved wifi / broadband connections and 4G/5G in Snowdonia is not the complete answer, it would assist in some circumstances by enabling people to have connection with the outside world, keep in touch with friends and family etc.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

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National Survey for Wales

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome C3:

Solutions relating to affordable housing to buy and rent to enable people to settle in the area, are being implemented.

Policies:

C3.1: Work with partners to address underlying issues and develop innovative solutions to delivering affordable housing that meets local needs.

C3.2: Through the LDP create policies that encourage affordable housing.

C3.3: Through the LDP create policies that encourage sustainable homes.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to take actions and measures that ensure people can stay within their local communities by being able to afford homes.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

There is a potential for a positive impact on protected groups by implementing these policies and associated actions.

The need for affordable homes is especially important in Snowdonia, as a high percentage of people are priced out of the local housing market in their community. Data shows us that 60% of Gwynedd families are priced out of the local housing market, with 21% of Gwynedd residents being in fuel poverty.

In 2015, the average (median) gross wage in Gwynedd was £415 and £474 in Conwy, which is lower than the Wales average of £479. The availability of affordable new homes is therefore a very important factor in supporting the local population.

Data shows us that people with some protected characteristics such as disabled people, young people and older people are statistically more likely to earn less than the average wage, due to factors such as living in a rural area restricts transport options and has fewer employment options. This policy therefore, has the potential not only to be positive for the general local population, but specifically for some people who have protected characteristics.

In addition, this policy can assist the Welsh language, as people (especially younger people) have increased opportunities to stay in their communities by being able to buy a home locally. One of the issues which affects Welsh language skills in Snowdonia is the outward migration of younger Welsh speakers and the inward migration of people who move to the National Park to retire. This policy has the potential to help negate the decline in use of the Welsh language.

As less than 3% of the National Park's population is of ethnic minority, this policy is not likely to discriminate against this group disproportionately. Refugee and asylum seekers such as those who have settled locally through for example the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme would not be affected, as they are allocated rented accommodation and are unlikely to be in the housing market.

It is important to consider accessibility when implementing affordable housing policies and actions. It is important that developers understand that including accessibility considerations at the outset, especially in planning social housing and affordable homes, as some people will require a larger footprint per household for those with impaired mobility; especially wheelchair users; those who need a toilet and shower on the ground floor and those who need permanent support staff to be housed within the property.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

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If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes made to the Plan, however, potential issues identified above need to be taken into full consideration when implementing the actions within the Plan.

ASSESSMENT OF HEADLINE OUTCOMES AND POLICIES FOR THE PLAN

Outcome C4:

Plan partners and community based organisations who champion and advocate on behalf of the needs and views of local people, are working together to ensure that the robust sense of community cohesion, belonging and vibrancy of the National Park continues.

Policies:

C4.1: Increase opportunities for dialogue between the National Park and community based organisations.

C4.2: Work with communities to further enhance understanding of the Special Qualities of the National Park.

Person(s) undertaking the assessment

Partnership Manager & Head of Administration and Customer Care

Short description of the Policy - purpose and aims

The aim of this outcome and associated policies is to ensure better engagement with local communities, ensuring that everyone feels included in the long term management of the National Park.

Do you consider that the policy has a major effect on people with protected characteristics (positive or negative)

An important part of well-being is the feeling of belonging in your community. Factors such as feeling part of your community, satisfaction levels, and believing that you can influence local decisions etc., all play their part and help community cohesion.

In 2018/19, the percentage of Gwynedd residents who agreed that there is good community cohesion in their area was only 53% (down from 69% in 2014/15). Figures in Conwy remain consistent from 2014/15 to 2018/19 at 61%. However, people who said they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live were higher at 89% in Gwynedd in 2018/19 and 93% in Conwy.

Further to this, in 2018/19 only 23% of Gwynedd residents and 19% of Conwy residents feel able to influence decisions affecting their local community. It is clear that any policies and associated actions which encourage more involvement would be welcomed.

Any engagement work with local communities within the National Park should ensure that people within hard to reach groups and those who are identified as socially excluded, are reached and invited to contribute.

Whilst better engagement with town and community councils is a positive step, it should be remembered that although they speak for their community, the Councillors are not always representative of their community. Other actions outlined are also positive actions and are not likely to have a negative impact on any particular group of people with protected characteristics, however they alone are not likely to achieve the overall outcome.

No major impact (positive or negative) identified.

Decision re full assessment – give your reasons

Screening Completed – no need for full assessment.

Data Sources and Evidence

Cynllun Eryri Initial Consultation Report

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North Wales Population Assessment 2017 (North Wales Social Care and Well-being Services Improvement Collaborative)

The National Survey for Wales

If you decide that there is no need for a full assessment – indicate any changes that have been made to the policy as a result of the screening process.

No changes required to the policies. However, when it comes to implement these policies consider adding further actions to ensure wider involvement with hard to reach groups.