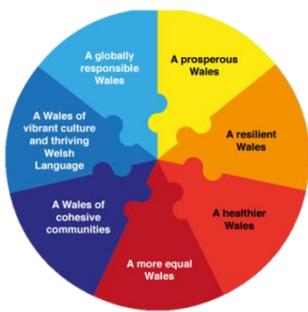


# Integrated Impact Assessment

## Purpose

The Welsh Government's activities affect more than 3 million people every day. And people's lives are complicated. Impact assessment is a structured way to consider the factors that mean our policies and actions affect different people's lives in different ways. Done well, impact assessment guides us to better policy making and implementation. Impact assessment indicates areas we might not have otherwise considered. And it supports our efforts to work collaboratively across portfolios to deliver the First Minister's vision to make a real difference for people in Wales.

## Impact Assessment, Sustainable Development & Future Generations



- The Well-being of Future Generations Act provides the framework for impact assessment in the Welsh Government
- Our integrated impact assessment will help you to undertake a properly rounded assessment of the impact of a proposed action
- This will include the social, economic, cultural and environmental effects of the proposal

## Integrated Impact Assessment

Impact assessments have been developed to meet both the requirements of Ministers and requirements set out in statutes passed by the Assembly and by the UK Parliament. You are required to consider all the relevant issues before advising on or reaching a decision.

Impact assessment is more effective and easier when done in an integrated way. By bringing together the range of impact assessment duties in a coherent framework, the integrated impact assessment reduces complexity and duplication.

Our approach:

- puts proportionate impact assessment at the centre of policy making and delivery
- helps take a rounded view of the main impacts, both positive and negative, of our actions
- involves people
- uses evidence
- avoids excessive procedure, rather bringing good judgement to bear
- results in a product that is accessible – that tells the story of how a proposal has developed and,
- provides the basis for future evaluation

## When to Assess Impact

Impact assessment should be started early in the policy lifecycle as part of integrating the social, cultural, economic and environmental considerations, represented in the Well-being Goals, into all of our work - as required by the Future Generations legislation. Impact assessments should be developed iteratively throughout the five stages of the policy life cycle.

Various pieces of legislation establish duties to undertake particular impact assessments. Even when policies, programmes and projects do not require the use of formal decision making processes, for example, if they are non-regulatory in nature or below a certain value in terms of their impact, impact assessment should still be applied proportionately to support effective decision making.

## Do's & Don'ts

- DO use IA **proportionately** to inform the design and appraisal of a proposal
- DO use IA to shape how you'll monitor its delivery and success
- DO refer back to IA later, when evaluating the success of an action
- DON'T think it's an add-on to the proposal

## Support

- no one is an expert in all areas of impact assessment and support is available
- a list of the support available can be found in the guidance for the integrated impact assessment
- an early conversation with a colleague who knows the impact assessment area will set you on the right path

Overview of the Integrated Impact Assessment process

