



Equality Impact Assessment Form

Service Area: Education Service	Head of Service: James Harris	Person Responsible for the assessment: Amanda B Davies	Date of Assessment: January 2013	
Name of the policy/practice to be assessed: Budget Consultation - Outdoor Education Provision			Is this a new, existing or policy/practice under review?	New budget proposal
1. Briefly describe the purpose of the policy/practice: If the policy/practice is under review, please list any options under consideration		Outdoor Education Provision (£79,000): Gwent Outdoor Education Service is a joint service supported by Blaenau Gwent, Newport and Torfaen, with Monmouthshire acting as the lead authority. The service operates three residential centres, Hilston Park, Gilwern and Talybont offering a range of outdoor education activities in the south east Wales area. Activity fees for young people from the four authorities have historically been subsidised by the local authorities. This is a non-statutory service and alternative provision is available for schools that wish to continue to offer this opportunity to pupils. The proposed removal of the subsidy would require the Gwent Outdoor Education Service to become self-financing in terms of any contribution from Newport City Council. This would give rise to Central Education savings of £79k. The impact of the decision may be felt by Schools and individual pupils and parents as the costs of Outdoor Activities may rise within the City, although there are other providers of these types of services available.		
2. Name any associated policy, legislation, corporate objective etc:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Integrated Plan • Corporate Plan (2012-17) • Annual Improvement Plan • Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategy (2011-14) • Children and Young People's Plan (2011-14) 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Service Plan
3. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the policy/practice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils • Parents • Schools • Gwent Outdoor Education Service • Other outdoor education service providers
4. Who performs the service?	Gwent Outdoor Education Service, hosted by Monmouthshire County Borough Council.
5. What outcomes are wanted from this policy/practice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed removal of the Council subsidy towards non-statutory outdoor education activities, thereby directing education funding towards schools and statutory services.
6. What factors could contribute to/detract from the outcomes (risks/opportunities)?	<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased cost of outdoor education activities for young people in Newport. • The Gwent Outdoor Service may have to reconfigure its structure in view of the decision which may give rise to potential redundancy costs. These costs, if any cannot yet be assessed until Newport's and any other constituent Councils contributions are all known. <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stakeholders, including service users, able to contribute to the council budget consultation process. • Schools and young people continue to be able to access a range of outdoor education activities from a range of providers.
7. Describe the steps you have taken to carry out this assessment e.g. consultation and involvement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion with Gwent Outdoor Education Service and Monmouthshire County Borough Council • Discussion with the Cabinet Member for Education and Young People • Public consultation on the Council's proposed budget savings.
8. Give a summary of the information the council has taken into account for this assessment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Service budget expenditure • Information on current usage of the Gwent Outdoor Education Service by Newport schools. • Information on statutory and non-statutory education functions.

<p>9. Does the policy/practice eliminate discrimination and promote equality and good community relations due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Gender • Disability • Race • Religion/belief • Welsh language • Gender reassignment • Marriage/civil partnership • Sexual orientation • Pregnancy and Maternity 	<p>Gwent Outdoor Education Service activities are available to children and young people in primary and secondary schools, regardless of gender, disability, race, religion/belief, language, or sexual assignment or orientation. The removal of the subsidy will be applied equally across all groups, and outdoor education activities will continue to be available to young people.</p>
<p>10. Summary of the impact of the policy/practice on the general equality duty:</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal to remove the subsidy for outdoor education activities will discriminate specifically against children within the protected characteristics.</p>

Equality Action Plan -		
Key Actions	Actions (with dates) Any associated performance measures	Lead Officer(s)
Further actions to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and good community relations on the grounds of:-		
Age Gender Etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor the use of the Gwent Outdoor Education Service by different groups of young people. 	Assistant Head of Education (Planning)
If there are decisions pending that will affect this policy/practice please state when and how the decision will be taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final 2013/14 Council budget decision. 	Cabinet Head of Finance Head of Education
How will the policy/practice be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitored Performance assessed Reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the Education Service. Feedback from schools. 	Assistant Head of Education (Planning)
Does the EIA need to be revisited in 6 months/a year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not anticipated. 	Assistant Head of Education (Planning)

Signed (lead officer)

Signed (Head of Service)

Date 31 January 2013