



CARDIFF'S HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELL BEING STRATEGY 2008-2011 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT POLICY INTEGRATION ASSESSMENT

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to document the findings and the recommendations of Cardiff Council's Policy Integration Assessment of Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011 Consultation Document, undertaken on 13th November 2007.

INTRODUCTION

Public bodies have a duty to assess and consult on the impact that proposed policies will have in a range of areas. Cardiff Council's Policy Integration Assessment constitutes one of several assessments undertaken in order to assess the impact of Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011. The other assessments include an Equality Impact Assessment, a Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Health Impact Assessment.

BACKGROUND

The aim of Cardiff Council's Policy Integration Assessment is to ensure that policies developed within the council meet the council's strategic agenda and fulfil the council's commitments to sustainable development, equality of opportunity and social justice. In order to do this, the Policy Integration Tool has been designed in order to encourage policy makers to consider the wider corporate agenda, thereby ensuring a more joined up approach to policy development and delivery.

Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011 comprises one of the four statutory documents to be prepared by the Local Authority and is a joint statutory requirement of the Local Authority and the Local Health Board. It is an over-arching strategy, which will have far reaching implications as a result of its aim to "significantly improve the health and well being of the citizens of Cardiff and to deliver high quality, citizen focused services" (Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011).

In light of this, a Policy Integration Assessment was undertaken on the strategy in order to determine its impact on the economic, social and environmental well being of Cardiff and to identify any potential gaps in the strategy.

PROCESS

A group of individuals with different policy interests were assembled to undertake the Policy Integration Assessment (Individuals listed on the policy integration tool report). The group were required to reach a consensus on a list of questions designed to measure the contribution of the strategy to given objectives.

The questions were arranged into seven sub-categories which contributed to the council's four key priorities of Economic Well being, Social Well being, Environmental Well being and Cardiff Connections. The seven sub-categories were: a vibrant and thriving city; a city of opportunity; a bright and safe city; serving the city; a creative and exciting city; a healthy city and a clean and attractive city.

The group were required to score each objective against a scale comprising six options ranging from undermining to excellent. The strategy was scored as 'Undermining' if it significantly undermined the objective; 'Poor' if it did not fully explore the potential to contribute to the objective; 'Neutral' if it did not affect the objective; 'Fair' if it made some direct or significant indirect contribution to the objective; 'Good' if it made a significant positive contribution to the objective and 'Excellent' if it made a close to optimal contribution to the objective.

A report documenting the findings of the assessment and detailing recommendations was produced by the lead officer, Jonathan Thomas. The recommendations were considered by the partners responsible for writing the strategy and amendments subsequently made.

CONCLUSION

As stated above, the Policy Integration Tool measured the contribution of Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011 to the council's four key priorities of Economic Well being, Social Well being, Environmental Well being and Cardiff Connections. Economic Well being was divided into two sub-categories: a vibrant and thriving city and a creative and exciting city. Similarly, Social Well being was divided into the two sub-categories: a city of opportunity and a healthy city, whilst Environmental Well being was divided into the two sub-categories; a bright and safe city and a clean and attractive city. Cardiff Connections consisted of one sub-category, serving the city. Detailed below is a summary of the four key priorities broken down into each of the seven sub-categories.

1. Economic Well being

Overall, the strategy was assessed as 'fair' in this area in terms of it making some direct or significant indirect contribution to the economic well being of Cardiff.

a) A Vibrant and Thriving City: As a result of the strategy indirectly contributing to an increase in economic activity largely through an improvement in the health of the population, the strategy was determined to be 'Fair' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

b) A Creative and Exciting City: As a result of the strategy embedding cultural diversity in the reducing social inequalities section of each chapter and it encouraging participation and access for all to physical activity and leisure, the strategy was assessed as 'Fair' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

2. Social Well being

Overall, the strategy made a significant positive contribution to the social well being of Cardiff as a result of it scoring 'Good' and 'Excellent' in the two sub-categories.

a) A City of Opportunities: Through the strategy identifying older people and children and young people as key priority areas as well as the strategy

promoting equality of opportunity in Cardiff, the strategy was assessed as 'Good' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

b) A Healthy City: As a result of the primary aim of the strategy being to improve health and well being in Cardiff through improving access and participation in physical activity; improving access to health and well being services; addressing the root causes of poor health; and tackling poor health in the most deprived and disadvantages groups, the strategy was assessed as 'Excellent' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

3. Environmental Well being

Overall, the strategy was assessed as not affecting the environmental well being of Cardiff as a result of it contributing in a fair manner to a bright and safe city and a neutral manner to a clean and attractive city.

a) A Bright and Safe City: The strategy faired well in ensuring that all areas and individuals have access to good quality local services and facilities and also in supporting local community voluntary action. However, this was balanced by a neutral contribution to providing resource efficient housing and reducing fuel poverty and to reducing crime and increasing safety. Therefore, the strategy was assessed as 'Fair' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

b) A Clean and Attractive City: Many of the objectives in this area of the integration tool were outside of the remit of the strategy, for example, increasing the area and quality of wildlife habitants or supporting flood risk management. Therefore, the strategy was assessed as 'Neutral' in contributing to the objectives in this area.

4. Cardiff Connections

Overall, the strategy made a significant contribution to Cardiff Connections.

a) Serving the City: The development and implementation of the strategy is underpinned by service user involvement, public engagement and partnership working, therefore, the strategy was assessed as making a significant contribution to the objectives in this area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Two recommendations were made following the Policy Integration Assessment of the Health, Social Care and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011. The assessment recommended that:-

1. The strategy make reference to the Corporate Health Standard
2. The 2011-2014 strategy considers the impact of climate change on Cardiff's Health, Social Care and Well Being.

AMENDMENTS TO STRATEGY

It was agreed that the Corporate Health Standard should be included in the strategy and as such, a new section called 'Workplace Health', which discussed the Corporate Health Standard, was included in Chapter 3 - 'Promoting and Improving the Health of the Population of Cardiff'.