

Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Title: <u>Welsh Government Nation of Sanctuary Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan</u>	WLIA Reference No <i>(completed by WLU):</i> Clearance number 04/03/2018.				
Name of person completing form:	Elaine Hepple				
Date:	8 March 2018				
Policy lead:	John Davies				
Contact details:	Elaine.hepple@gov.wales Tel: 03000253677				
Programme/Project Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Project or programme <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Research, evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Business change <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts, tenders <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Construction, Capital <input type="checkbox"/> ICT <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify below)					
Costs: How much is the projected whole life cost for the programme/project? If below £25k, then a full WLIA is not always required (see guidance).					
Under £25k	£25k - £49k	£50 - £249K	£250K - £1m	Over £1m	
√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Of the above, please provide details if there are any identified costs directly associated with the Welsh language? None					
How long is the programme/project expected to run?					
Up to 1 yr	Up to 2yrs	Up to 5yrs	Up to 10yrs	More than 10 yrs	Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	√
Key milestone dates for the programme/ project: Consultation on the draft plan will begin on 23 March.					

Publication of the plan and implementation will commence in September 2018.

STAGE 1: PLANNING

What are the aims and objectives of the policy?

What are the desired outcomes/ what constitutes 'success'?

The Welsh Government published a Refugee & Asylum Seeker Delivery Plan in March 2016. In April 2017, the National Assembly for Wales Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee "I used to be someone"; Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Wales report made a number of recommendations to improve the lives of refugees and asylum seekers (RAS) in Wales. Recommendation 1 was that the Welsh Government should review and consult on a revised plan.

Officials have engaged with and coproduced the plan with refugees and asylum seekers and the organisations that support them to ensure that it includes the actions that they consider to be necessary. It has also been aligned to reflect the priorities in Prosperity for All.

Success will be achieving equality of access for refugees and asylum seekers to services in Wales, for example; housing, healthcare, education (including access to Welsh for Speakers of Other Languages courses), training and employment.

What policy options have been considered?

and

What impacts will there be if the policy is *not* implemented?

In May 2017, the Welsh Government committed to reviewing and revising the RAS plan.

There will be reputational damage if we do NOT produce the new plan. However, the plan is now the Welsh Government Nation of Sanctuary Plan to reflect the fact that it has followed the Well-Being of Future Generations Act (2015) five ways of working by involving a wide coalition of organisations outside of Welsh Government in the development and co-production and future implementation of the new plan.

Does the programme demonstrate a clear link with the Welsh Government's strategy for the Welsh language – [*Cymraeg 2050 A million Welsh speakers*](#)

Yes; it will meet the Cymraeg 2050 aim:

To ensure that the Welsh language is an integral part of our efforts to enhance Wales' relationship with the wider world, and used to welcome and integrate people who move to Wales.

What are the impacts/ effects (both positive and/or adverse) on the Welsh language you have identified at the initial planning stage

i.e. Welsh speakers, Welsh language communities, Welsh medium education, Welsh learners, services available in Welsh?

No discernable negative impact on the Welsh Language has been identified.

In the plan there are actions intended to improve access to both ESOL and WSOL classes for refugees and asylum seekers. Officials are exploring opportunities to build networks between refugees and asylum seekers and Welsh speakers to promote informal Welsh language acquisition. Learning Welsh in Welsh-speaking areas is likely to benefit refugees directly and indirectly as it subverts stereotypes and presents refugees as an asset to communities.

Who are the stakeholders? Are the needs of Welsh speakers and learners addressed? To what extent are Welsh language interest groups likely to respond positively to the proposals?

Our stakeholders are primarily refugees and asylum seekers. Many may have poor levels of English. By producing the plan bilingually, it will help them to understand that Wales has two languages. The consultation document will be published in English and Welsh. The final plan will also be bi-lingual.

In the plan there are actions intended to improve access to both ESOL and WSOL classes for refugees and asylum seekers. Officials are also exploring opportunities to build networks between refugees and asylum seekers and Welsh speakers to promote informal Welsh language acquisition and that learning Welsh.

The needs of Welsh speakers who work for organisations which support migrants will also be positively addressed as their views will be sought in their preferred language.

Where an assessment was not completed, or no impacts were identified, please provide a full account for record keeping purposes?

What actions/ further work has been identified at the initial planning stage?

e.g. data requirements, need for peer review, external engagement with Welsh speaking groups, identify stakeholders or consultation list, need to contact Welsh Language Division for advice)?

STAGE 2: IDENTIFYING AND ASSESSING IMPACTS

Impact Assessment Summary

Summarise the detailed impact assessment carried out together with the scores assigned.

Positive effects/ impacts:

A detailed WLIA has not been carried out. The majority of the actions in the plan will be delivered by other Welsh Government departments through their existing policies, e.g: Health and we have assumed that their policies have already been Impact Assessed.

Adverse effects/ impacts:

Opportunities to promote the Welsh language e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life, Welsh at work increased?	
The plan contains a number of actions to increase the provision of English and Welsh classes for Refugees and Asylum Seekers.	
Evidence/ data used including demographic profile when considering the effects/ impacts:	
What is the overall anticipated likely impact on the Welsh language if this policy is taken forward based on the impact assessment/ risk assessment?	Positive: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adverse: <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral: <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown: <input type="checkbox"/>
Decision following IA	1. No major change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Adjust the policy to improve impacts <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Continue the policy with mitigation measures <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Stop and remove the policy <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If answered 2,3, or 4 above – then answer the following:</i> How will you address these impacts in order to improve the outcomes for the Welsh language? Details of mitigation measures/ action points/ alternative options to reduce adverse impacts and increase positive outcomes:	
If engaging or consulting, what are your plans? What questions do you wish to ask stakeholders about the Welsh Language Impact Assessment and Welsh language related issues?	
STAGE 3: POST CONSULTATION AND PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION	
Following consultation, what changes have you made to address any Welsh language issues that were raised?	
How will you monitor the ongoing effects during the implementation of the policy?	

The actions in the plan and the successful outcomes they deliver (or not) will be reviewed by the Welsh Government's Refugee and Asylum Seeker Operations Board and the Ministerial Taskforce.

Please outline how you will continue to capture effects/ impacts in future monitoring and evaluation?

Any other comments – ongoing results of evaluations, emerging impacts

4. Declaration

Policy lead:

****Please delete as appropriate:***

The policy ~~does~~ / ~~does not~~ have an impact upon the Welsh language. Where there were identified adverse impacts or missed opportunities, the appropriate amendments and actions have been put in place.

Name:

Elaine Hepple

Department:

Equality & Prosperity

Date (s):

8 March 2018

Signature:

Elaine Hepple

Planned Review Dates:

SRO ENDORSEMENT and REVIEW

I am satisfied that the WLIA is an accurate reflection of the programme/project at this stage of development. By signing, I am able to confirm that the Welsh Language Standards have been given the appropriate attention. I will re-assess the programme/project at key stages throughout the life of the programme/ project, including policy reviews.

Signed	Paul Dear (Senior Responsible Owner)	Date	8 March 2018
Signed	(Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date	
Signed	(Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date	
Signed	(Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date	