Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government Integrated Impact Assessment Record

Proposal summary

1. The Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

2. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: “strengthening the Welsh economy” through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

3. The WPPS does not introduce new policy. Instead, it brings together existing policies and current procurement legislation within a single strategic framework to support the overarching priority of strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement.

4. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the WPPS apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Well-being of Future Generations Act questions

1. How have the five ways of working shaped the development and implementation of this policy or legislation?

5. **Long-term:** the WPPS focuses on building resilient supply chains, helping Welsh business compete and supporting stronger local and regional supply chains, improving workforce capability, implementing fair work principles and encouraging innovation. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they use public procurement to support net zero, apply circular economy principles and to consider whole-life costs and carbon impacts while protecting the environment for future generations. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

6. **Prevention:** it promotes earlier planning and market engagement, proportionate procurement design and active contract management to identify barriers, delivery risks and underperformance before they become entrenched.

7. **Integration:** the WPPS unites cross-cutting commitments to achieve the priority of strengthening the Welsh economy, through stating that procurement should be used to support and improve the social, economic, environmental, cultural and

health well-being of Wales. The WPPS emphasises that sustainability is a cross-cutting expectation, and that prevention and early intervention measures are supported, while strengthening Welsh-speaking communities and promoting the Welsh language. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4.

8. **Collaboration:** the WPPS supports engagement between WCAs, suppliers, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs), workers and communities.

9. **Involvement:** the WPPS places an emphasis on early and proportionate supplier and market engagement which can assist WCAs in understanding the limitations of the market, while suppliers are granted an opportunity to learn about forthcoming opportunities. There is a focus on community wealth building by improving fair access to public procurement by SMEs and VCSEs, such as through the consideration of using lots for contracts (breaking larger contracts into smaller opportunities to reduce barriers). The publication of notices informing the market that specific procurements are likely to be undertaken over the next 18 months and provision of accessible tender information is encouraged so that suppliers have time to prepare and understand future opportunities.

2. Who have you collaborated with and involved when developing the proposal, and to understand its impacts, including on people, households, public bodies, businesses and the third sector (e.g. through engagement with relevant stakeholders or public consultation?)

10. Internal stakeholders whose portfolios were identified as being impacted by the proposed WPPS were engaged (August 2026) in the initial development of the WPPS. This included:

- Fair Work team
- Steel policy officials
- Food policy officials
- Procurement delivery officials
- Procurement policy and legislation officials
- Environmental policy officials, including those with expertise in:
    - decarbonisation
    - net zero
    - climate
    - circular economy
    - foundational economy
- Social value policy officials
- Health and Social Care policy officials

11. The intention is to undertake further stakeholder engagement, through a public consultation on the WPPS, where suppliers, WCAs and members of the public will be able to review the draft WPPS and provide comment.

3. How does the policy contribute to sustainable development and long-term well-being outcomes?

12. The WPPS seeks to use procurement to deliver greater value for Wales by strengthening Welsh supply chains and firms, supporting jobs, skills and fair work, widening fair access to public contracts, encouraging innovation and evidencing wider benefits. Its cross-cutting sustainability expectation encourages WCAs within statutory scope to support net zero, reduce waste, apply circular economy principles, consider whole-life costs and carbon impacts, and protect the natural environment. The WPPS promotes the use of procurement to improve social, economic, environmental, cultural and health well-being, reduce inequalities, strengthen Welsh-speaking communities and deliver long-term value. Impacts will be recognised through individual procurements, and must be evidenced through proportionate measures, supplier reporting and contract management. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4.

4. What are the key impacts (positive, negative, and opportunities) across each of the seven well-being goals?

A prosperous Wales

13. There are potential positive effects through implementation of fair work principles which supports improved workforce training and development, provision of apprenticeships where appropriate for the procurement, investment in locals skills, employability and progression. Innovation is supported by the WPPS, including innovative digital solutions, and there is the potential for positive impacts through using the opportunities provided in the WPPS to encourage innovation in procurements. Support of Welsh foundational economy sectors is encouraged where Welsh supplier capacity is realistic (such as food and timber production and processing, or construction), which can be achieved through better pre-market engagement.

14. Positive application of the WPPS could lead to greater supply-chain resilience and with more value retained in Wales through increasing opportunities for Welsh businesses and Welsh small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs).

15. Potential negative impacts could be realised through the increased reporting burdens on WCAs and suppliers, disproportionate tender requirements, or uneven supplier capability preventing competition and innovation.

A resilient Wales

16. Improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of Wales is an important principle of the WPPS, with sustainability a cross-cutting expectation.

WCAs should consider how each individual procurement can support net zero and waste reduction, apply circular economy principles, consider whole-life costs and carbon impacts and protect the natural environment for future generations, in accordance with paragraph 4. Applied appropriately to each procurement, there is the potential for positive impacts in building a Wales with stronger and improved environmental resilience, and economic and social improvements. There is the potential for negative impacts where WCAs do not apply sustainability principles, or do not monitor contract delivery and the associated outcomes.

A healthier Wales

17. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, including by considering the health and well-being of Wales as a cross-cutting commitment. The WPPS provides indirect opportunities for positively impacting people's physical and mental well-being. It supports fair work principles, where WCAs are encouraged to support improved workforce training and development, to invest in developing local skills, employability and progression. WCAs are asked to consider providing for apprenticeships within their contracts where proportionate and appropriate. Such measures can lead to positively improving mental and physical well-being through better work opportunities, granting employees the chance for workplace development, and improvement of skills, while increasing local work opportunities.

18. Negative impacts could arise where WCAs do not consider local needs appropriately and not provide for workforce improvement or apprenticeships.

A more equal Wales

19. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, and remove the barriers to tendering faced by SMEs and VCSEs, and consider how they can create new well-paid jobs. Measures include applying fair work principles, investing in developing local skills (such as through apprenticeships and workforce development), encouraging consortium based bidding, and monitoring delivery of employment and skills commitments through applicable key performance indicators and contract management. Publication of procurement pipelines advising of upcoming contracts, use of early proportionate pre-market engagement and use of lots (breaking large contracts into smaller manageable contracts) can help reduce the barriers faced by local Welsh businesses, SMEs and VCSEs.

20. These approaches have the potential to maximise opportunities for people from various socio-economic background within Wales and accessibility of contracts to Welsh businesses, which would retain value within the Welsh economy. Negative impacts could be realised where such measures are not applied fairly, or contract delivery is not monitored leading to poor implementation and management of apprenticeships or workforce training, or where pre-market engagement fails to encourage SME and VCSE uptake.

Cohesive communities

21. Building stronger local and regional supply chains is key to the WPPS, with a focus on community wealth building, including where it is possible to support the foundational economy (food and timber production, construction, maintenance,

facilities management, social care and professional services), and support the delivery of social, economic and community well-being. How well this is applied depends on individual procurements, but there is potential for positive impacts where WCAs seek to help Welsh businesses compete, where they consider how their individual procurements can improve social, economic and community well-being. Conversely, if WCAs do not determine how they can use their procurements to appropriately implement the WPPS to the best effect, there is the potential for no – or negative – impacts on building a strong cohesive community.

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

22. The WPPS states that procurement should be used as a strategic lever to understand how public spending contributes to the Welsh language, cultural well-being and improved outcomes for Wales. WCAs need to be able to demonstrate how procurement activity has delivered tangible benefits against these goals, though supplier reporting and annual reporting where applicable. If contract monitoring is implemented and managed successfully, it can be used by WCAs to understand where they are succeeding against these goals, and areas for improvement, which can lead to positive impacts.

23. Poor contract management could lead to negative impacts where the needs of local communities are not appropriately understood and therefore not addressed where feasible in relevant procurements.

A globally responsible Wales

24. Sustainability is a cross-cutting expectation of the WPPS, and WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including this commitment. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. There are real opportunities for positive tangible impacts where WCAs appropriately determine which procurements can be used to:
    - support net zero and reduce waste,
    - where they can apply circular economy principles,
    - consider how whole-life costs and carbon impacts would be impacted by the contract specifications,
    - and how procurement can be used to protect the natural environment for future generations

5. What evidence, including reports under the Act, has informed the policy, and how will it support ongoing decision-making?

25. The WPPS has been developed by procurement policy officials based on the requirements under the Procurement Act 2023 – particularly section 14, which provides the statutory basis for the WPPS and requires relevant WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023 to “have regard” to the statement when undertaking public procurement. WCAs outside the scope of the Act are not legally obliged to have regard to the WPPS, however they are strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS where relevant and appropriate.

26. Welsh specific legislation has also been incorporated when developing the policy statement: the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act 2023. The Welsh Themes,

Outcomes and Measures system has been included within the WPPS to help achieve the priority of strengthening the Welsh economy.

27. Feedback received from the public consultation on the WPPS will be evaluated and may where appropriate help inform the final WPPS which will be laid before the Senedd. The WPPS will be kept under review to ensure it reflects the relevant legislation, including the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and current policy.

Summary of Impact Assessments for this proposal

Mandatory publication (if the Impact Assessment is required)

Equality Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Children's Rights Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Health Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Published: **To be published**

Other Impact Assessments

Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Data Protection Impact Assessment Screening

Completed: **Yes**

Biodiversity Impact Assessment

Completed: **Not required for this proposal**

Rural Proofing Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Sustainable Land Management Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

Carbon Impact Assessment

Completed: **Not required for this proposal**

Duty of Quality (Health) Impact Assessment

Completed: **Not required for this proposal**

Socio-economic Impact Assessment

Completed: **Yes**

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1. Equality Impact Assessment

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EQIA) TEMPLATE

MAKING BETTER AND FAIRER DECISIONS

A. Proposal

1. Title of proposal

1. Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS)

2. What is your proposal aiming to achieve?

2. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.
3. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.
4. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the WPPS apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

3. When did work start on the proposal?

5. April 26

4. Which organisations, groups or communities are likely to be affected?

6. WCAs and procurement practitioners; businesses and suppliers, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs); employees and workers in public contract supply chains; apprentices, people seeking work and people seeking to retrain or progress; users of public services; communities affected by procurement outcomes; organisations representing people who share protected characteristics; trade unions and workforce representatives; and delivery partners responsible for guidance, learning, data, reporting and oversight

5. Have you registered your EqIA on iShare?

Yes

B. Impact on, and engagement with, people in protected groups

AGE

1. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

7. The WPPS includes proposals relating to apprenticeships, jobs and skills, workforce development, fair work, digital transformation and public-service outcomes. These levers may affect younger people entering work, working-age people and older workers or service users differently. For example, applying workforce development to help retrain older workers for new roles, or apprenticeship to support older workers to enter a new career. During the initial development of the WPPS internal stakeholders whose portfolios were identified as being impacted by the proposed WPPS were engaged (August 2026) and their feedback considered.

2. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

8. Specific evidence on how the WPPS will impact various age groups is currently unavailable. Further stakeholder engagement is planned through a public consultation enabling WCAs, suppliers and the wider public to comment.

3. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

9. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work; Steel policy officials; Food policy officials; Procurement delivery officials; Procurement policy and legislation officials; Environmental policy officials, including those with expertise in: decarbonisation net zero climate circular economy foundational economy; Social value policy officials and Health and Social Care policy officials. The public consultation on the WPPS will offer an opportunity for WCAs, suppliers and members of the public, including those from affected and representative organisations, to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

4. How has evidence affected your proposal?

10. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received and, where appropriate, the WPPS has been amended. Specific age-related impacts were not identified during this initial stakeholder engagement.

5. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

11. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4. Where applied appropriately, there is the potential for positive impacts where WCAs promote apprenticeships or encourage workforce development and training within their individual procurements. These levers could develop the skills of those entering the workforce for the first time, or for those in work, enhance their current job skills. Negative impacts may arise where WCAs do not appropriately consider how individual procurements could

assist in providing opportunities for different age groups, such as not including the potential for apprenticeships or workforce development.

6. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

12. The policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed.

DISABILITY

7. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

13. The WPPS refers to equality, safe and inclusive working practices, accessible tender information, fair access to procurement and digital transformation. These provisions could be relevant to disabled workers, business owners, suppliers and service users.

8. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

14. Specific evidence on how the WPPS can remove barriers, or minimise them, for disabled people is not available. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

9. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

15. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. The public consultation on the WPPS will offer an opportunity for WCAs, suppliers and members of the public, including those from affected and representative organisations, to review the WPPS and provide comment.

10. How has evidence affected your proposal?

16. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received and ensured that Fair work was a cross-cutting theme throughout the WPPS.

11. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

17. The WPPS has the potential to support more inclusive employment, supplier participation and services. Fair Work is a cross-cutting theme in the WPPS. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, including how they can apply the Fair Work procurement levers within the WPPS, such as promoting secure and rewarding employment, and equality and safe and inclusive working practices in their contracts, with suppliers applying this in their work practices.

12. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

18. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated

with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

RACE

13. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

19. The WPPS seeks to support fair work, equality, local supply chains, SMEs and VCSEs. These aims could affect workers, entrepreneurs, suppliers and communities from different ethnic backgrounds.

14. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

20. No specific evidence is available on how the WPPS can remove or minimise barriers for people with the protected characteristic of race. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

15. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

21. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. The public consultation on the WPPS will offer an opportunity for WCAs, suppliers and members of the public, including those from affected and representative organisations, to review the WPPS and provide comment.

16. How has evidence affected your proposal?

22. The Welsh Government Fair Work Team reviewed the WPPS to ensure it aligned with fair work policies. Specific race-related impacts were not identified during this initial stakeholder engagement.

What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

23. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they consider how public procurement can promote fair work, such as by encouraging equality and safe working practices within their contracts. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. This has the potential to reduce barriers if applied consistently by WCAs in their contracts and through effective contract management.

17. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

24. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts. Additional supporting materials – a resource library – are planned to support WCAs in implementing the WPPS. Further supporting material could be drafted,

depending on WCAs feedback, that assists WCAs in promoting equality and fair work practices within the public procurement processes and contracts.

RELIGION, BELIEF OR NON-BELIEF

18. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

25. The WPPS contains general commitments relating to equality, fair work and inclusive employment, but people with the protected characteristic religion, belief and non-belief are not directly referenced. Currently, only internal stakeholders whose portfolios were identified as being impacted by the proposed WPPS have been engaged, (August 2026), and their feedback considered.

19. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

26. Specific evidence is unavailable on how the WPPS may remove or minimise barriers for people with the protected characteristic of religion, belief or non-belief. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

20. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

27. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. No comments were received concerning how the WPPS may impact people with the protected characteristic of religion, belief and non-belief.

21. How has evidence affected your proposal?

28. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received and, where appropriate the WPPS has been amended. Specific impacts related to religion, belief or non-belief were not identified during this initial stakeholder engagement.

22. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

29. The WPPS has the potential for both positive and negative impacts, though indirect, dependent on how WCAs implement the procurement levers within the statement. There is the potential for positive impact through WCAs promoting secure and rewarding employment, and promoting non-discrimination practices through supporting equality, and encouraging safe and inclusive practices that contribute to well-being and improved service delivery. Negative impacts may result where equality, safe and inclusive working practices are not promoted. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4.

23. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

30. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review

consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

SEX

24. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

31. The WPPS includes fair work, workforce development, equality, safe working practices, jobs and skills, and activity in sectors with differing workforce profiles. These provisions may affect women and men differently.

25. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

32. No specific evidence is currently available. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment.

26. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

33. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. The public consultation on the WPPS will offer an opportunity for WCAs, suppliers and members of the public, including those from affected and representative organisations, to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

27. How has evidence affected your proposal?

34. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received, amending the WPPS where relevant. No feedback was received in relation to how the WPPS may remove or reduce barriers for people with the protected characteristic of sex.

28. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

35. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, including how they can apply the fair work procurement levers within the WPPS. There is the potential to advance equality through the consistent application of secure and rewarding employment, safe and inclusive employment practices, with WCAs encouraging fair and equal access to training and workforce development.

29. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

36. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

GENDER REASSIGNMENT

30. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

37. The WPPS does not refer specifically to gender reassignment, but does refer to equality and safe and inclusive working practices. These commitments may be relevant to people who share the protected characteristic of gender reassignment. No specific evidence is available

31. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

38. No specific evidence is available. Public consultation will offer an opportunity for further stakeholder engagement, where WCAs, suppliers and members of the public, including those from affected and representative organisations, can review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

32. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

39. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. No specific comments were received concerning how the WPPS may reduce or remove barriers for people with the protected characteristic of gender reassignment.

33. How has evidence affected your proposal?

40. Following internal stakeholder consultation, the Policy team reviewed the feedback received, and, where appropriate, the WPPS was amended.

34. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

41. While the impacts are likely to be indirect, there is the potential for positive impacts. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation to have regard to fair work practices and inclusive working practices, and to ensure that suppliers have adhered to relevant fair work policies and practices. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

35. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

42. The Socially Responsible Procurement Annual report, under the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act 2023, where applicable, could be used to demonstrate how procurement activity has contributed to fair work and well-being. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

36. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

43. The WPPS does not refer directly to sexual orientation, but does refer to equality and safe and inclusive working practices, which may impact gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or heterosexual people. No specific evidence is currently available.

37. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

44. There is no specific evidence on how the WPPS may remove or reduce barriers for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or heterosexual people. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

38. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

45. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. No specific comments were received concerning how the WPPS may reduce or remove barriers for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or heterosexual people.

39. How has evidence affected your proposal?

46. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received and, where appropriate the WPPS has been amended.

40. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

47. While the impacts are likely to be indirect, there is the potential for reducing barriers for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or heterosexual people. The WPPS promotes safe and inclusive working practices, equality and safe and rewarding employment. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, including how they can apply these Fair Work procurement levers within their public procurements. Potential negative impacts could result where WCAs do not promote fair work principles within their procurements, contract specifications and contract management.

41. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

48. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY

42. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

49. The WPPS does not refer directly to pregnancy and maternity. However, the WPPS commitments on fair work, equality, secure and rewarding employment, workforce development and safe working practices may be relevant to pregnant workers and those on or returning from maternity leave. No specific evidence is available.

43. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

50. There is no specific evidence available on how the WPPS may reduce or remove barriers for women who are pregnant or in maternity. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

44. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

51. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. No specific comments were received concerning how the WPPS may reduce or remove barriers for women who are pregnant or in maternity.

45. How has evidence affected your proposal?

52. The Welsh Government Fair Work Team reviewed the WPPS to ensure it aligned with fair work policies. Specific pregnancy or maternity-related impacts were not identified during this initial stakeholder engagement.

46. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

53. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 4, including considering how they can apply (and monitor) the fair work commitments within the WPPS. There is potential for the WPPS to support positive workplace outcomes where these fair work principles are applied and monitored. There is a potential for negative impacts where there is inconsistent application of fair work principles within contracts.

47. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

54. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP

48. What evidence is available and what is its source? Include the findings from any engagement.

55. The WPPS does not refer directly to marriage and civil partnership. However, the WPPS includes fair work and equality commitments, which aims to reduce or remove discrimination in work. This may be relevant to removing or reducing barriers in work or employment for people by marriage or civil partnership.

49. Is any evidence unavailable or uncertain?

56. The WPPS promotes fair work principles. Specific evidence on how the WPPS will remove or reduce remove barriers in work or employment for people by marriage or civil partnership is unavailable. Public consultation will enable the

wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Equality Impact Assessment updated.

50. Who have you engaged with, why and how?

57. Initial engagement has been with internal Welsh Government stakeholders, including procurement and Fair Work interests. Specific impacts related to marriage or civil partnerships were not identified during this initial stakeholder engagement.

51. How has evidence affected your proposal?

58. The Policy team evaluated the internal stakeholder feedback received and, where appropriate the WPPS has been amended. No comments were received in relation to how the outlined procurement levers addressing discrimination in work or employment would be relevant to reducing or removing barriers for people by marriage or civil partnership.

52. What are the likely impacts of the proposal?

59. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they consider how public procurement can promote fair work, for example, through supporting secure and rewarding employment, equality, worker voice, and safe and inclusive working practices. These have the potential – if applied consistently and monitored – to reduce discrimination and indirectly reduce or remove barriers in employment and work for people by marriage or civil partnership. Negative impacts could result from inconsistent application of fair work principles across procurements and uneven contract management/monitoring. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

53. What steps will you take to enhance positive or reduce negative impacts?

60. The consultation document has a question dedicated to the IIA, which seeks views on whether the draft IIA has identified the principal impacts associated with the proposed WPPS. Following consultation, the policy team will review consultation responses and revise the assessment where needed. If negative impacts are identified, mitigations will be put in place to minimise these impacts.

C. Publication and Monitoring

1. Is this EqIA ready for publication on the Welsh Government website?

No

2. If you cannot publish the EqIA please explain why.

61. The EqIA is still in progress. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and the IIA and provide comment on both documents. Feedback from this consultation will be reviewed and, if specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified, these will be acknowledged and the EqIA updated. The IIA and the EqIA will be provided as a supporting document when

the WPPS is laid before the Senedd in early 2027. The intention is to publish the EqIA and the IIA following this process.

3. Is this EqIA an update on a version previously published?

No

4. How will you monitor and evaluate progress on the equality issues identified in this EqIA?

62. The EqIA should remain under review as the WPPS, supporting guidance and implementation arrangements develop. Monitoring should be proportionate to the material risks identified and should not commit to collection of unavailable, unreliable or disproportionate data.

2. Children's Rights Impact Assessment

1. In this document, "Welsh Contracting Authorities" or "WCAs" means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

1. Policy objectives

- **What is the proposal you are impact assessing?**

2. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.
3. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.
4. It provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and is not specifically directed at children, but procurement influenced by it may affect goods, services and works used by children and families, including schools, hospitals, transport, housing, care, digital services and community infrastructure. Procurement activity undertaken by WCAs may influence services and infrastructure used by children and young people, including education, health, transport, housing, digital services and community facilities. The WPPS includes priorities relating to jobs and skills, fair work, stronger communities, community wealth building, sustainability and wider well-being outcomes.
5. Whether the impacts are positive or negative depends on how the procurement levers within the WPPS are implemented by individual WCAs in individual procurements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1. There is scope for positive opportunities through proposals relating to apprenticeships and supporting workforce development which may affect younger people entering work.
6. Potential negative impacts may result where insufficient consideration is given to how individual procurements that affect children – for example, though relating to services for schools, transport, housing – impact the lives of children and young people.
7. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and provide comment on both documents. Feedback from this consultation will be reviewed and, if specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified, these will be acknowledged and the draft Children's Right Impact Assessment (CRIA) updated. The IIA and the CRIA will be provided as a supporting document when the WPPS is laid before the Senedd in early 2027. The intention is to publish the CRIA and the IIA following this process.

2. Gathering evidence and engaging with children and young people

- What existing research and data on children and young people is available to inform your specific policy?
- Using this research, how do you anticipate your policy will affect different groups of children and young people, both positively and negatively?
- What participatory work with children and young people have you used to inform your policy? If you have not engaged with children and young people, please explain why.

Response

8. No specific evidence has been identified in relation to children and young people. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts are identified these will be acknowledged and the draft CRIA updated.
9. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure. As a result, direct engagement with children and young people was not considered proportionate during its development. Potential impacts on children and young people are expected to arise through individual procurement exercises rather than from the statement itself. Where procurement activity directly affects services used by children and young people, WCAs should consider how children's views and interests can be appropriately taken into account.
10. Potential positive impacts are indirect and may arise through improved public services, stronger communities, increased family economic security, improved employment and skills opportunities, and wider well-being outcomes. Potential risks include inconsistent implementation across WCAs or situations where children's needs are not adequately considered during individual procurement exercises. As the WPPS does not direct service delivery, impacts will depend on how the procurement levers within the WPPS are applied within individual procurements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1.

3. Analysing the evidence and assessing the impact

- Using the evidence you have gathered, what impact is your policy likely to have on children and young people? What steps will you take to mitigate and/or reduce any negative effects?
- How does your proposal enhance or challenge children’s rights, as stipulated by the UNCRC articles and its Optional Protocols? Please identify each relevant article which applies to your policy and provide an explanation of how your proposal enhances or challenges that right. Where a potential negative impact has been identified, explain any mitigating actions that will be taken.

Response

11. Impacts will depend on how the procurement levers within the WPPS are applied within individual procurements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1. There is potential for the WPPS to have an indirect positive impact on children and young people. Through support for fair work, jobs and skills, apprenticeships, community wealth building, sustainability and improved public services, the policy may contribute to conditions that support children's well-being and development.

12. No direct adverse impacts on children and young people have been identified. Potential impacts are expected to arise through individual procurement activities undertaken by WCAs. There is a risk that positive outcomes may not be realised consistently if children's needs are not appropriately considered in procurement planning and delivery leading to potentially negative impacts. However, negative impacts may not be realised, where risk is mitigated through proportionate consideration of those needs when relevant procurements are undertaken.

13. The following articles have been deemed relevant:

Article 2, non-discrimination

14. The WPPS promotes apprenticeships where appropriate, which may impact young people who are old enough to work.

Article 3, best interests

15. For procurements which impact children, (for example, relating to schools e.g. school catering), WCAs would be responsible for ensuring that the best interests of children are considered and incorporated into their procurement processes and contract delivery and monitoring. There is the potential for positive impact where WCAs apply the relevant opportunities within the WPPS, such as how their procurements can benefit community wealth building, improving social and cultural well-being, and Welsh language opportunities.

Article 6, life, survival and development

16. For procurements which impact children, (for example but not exhaustive, procurement relating to schools, care facilities for children and young people, or apprenticeships aimed at providing skills for young people looking to enter the workforce), WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including how the measures within the WPPS would impact the life, survival and development of the child. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to also consider these measures. The WPPS promotes principles such as fair work terms through secure employment, workforce development and apprenticeships, as well promoting sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation. There is the potential for positive impacts, where young people are able to gain skills through apprenticeships for future employment. Sustainable procurement has the potential for positively improving the environment, which would indirectly impact the lives of children and young people, by securing a healthy natural environment for future generations.

Article 12, views of the child

17. The WPPS supports pre-market engagement. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, including considering how they can use pre-market engagement, where appropriate, to engage with children and young people where they would be impacted by the services to be delivered by their procurement. This could potentially foster a positive impact with the procurement/contract specifications addressing concerns raised by children, and outlining methods to engage with children once the contract is in place, so as to monitor whether the contract is delivering successfully against the agreed outcomes. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

Article 24, health

18. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, and while the WPPS does not cover health services, it does include the commitment to consider the health well-being of Wales, and reminds WCAs of their duty (where they are in scope) under the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

Article 28 and 29, education

19. The WPPS does not directly support children's education, however, it promotes fair work principles that support workforce development, investment in local skills and progression opportunities. The WPPS also supports the use of apprenticeships through public procurement where appropriate and proportionate. This may contribute to a positive impact for children entering the workforce.

Article 30, language and culture and Article 31, Leisure, play and cultural activities

20. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including the expectation that they understand how public spending contributes to cultural well-being and the Welsh language. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. For appropriate procurements, this could impact children from Welsh-speaking families or in Welsh medium schools, where contract specifications could introduce measures to assist in expression and learning of the Welsh language and culture. Positive or negative impacts would be dependent on how well WCAs understand the needs of the children, and how successfully they monitor contract delivery against desired outcomes.

21. The final Children's Rights Impact Assessment will be published alongside the final IIA and the WPPS, in accordance with Welsh Government impact assessment requirements.

4. Communicating with Children and Young People

- **If you have sought children and young people's views on your proposal, how will you inform them of the outcome?**

22. N/A

5. Monitoring and Review

As implementation is undertaken through individual procurements by WCAs, any impacts on children and young people will depend on how the WPPS is applied in practice. The intention is to keep the WPPS under review to ensure that it continues to reflect current procurement legislation and procurement policy. When reviewing the WPPS, Procurement Policy will consider how implementation of the WPPS has impacted children and young people in relevant procurement contracts, and if required, updated the CRIA accordingly. It is likely that such a review will consist of surveys / questionnaires to WCAs, reviewing contract management practices and monitoring key performance indicators utilised in contracts through available procurement tender notices (such as the 'contract performance notice'). Any future amendments to the WPPS will be subject to further consultation.

3. Health Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Template

Name of decision:

2. Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS)

Purpose /aim of decision:

3. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

4. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

5. The WPPS focuses on strengthening the Welsh economy and sets cross-cutting expectations relating to fair work, sustainable and resilient supply chains, community well-being, the Welsh language, reduced inequalities and improved health and well-being outcomes. Any health effects will depend on how the procurement levers within the WPPS are applied within individual procurements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1.

SECTION A – Completing a Health Impact Assessment

Population Group(s) affected by decision / policy

- What information do you have about the population group(s) whose physical or mental health are reasonably considered may be affected by the decision?

Response

6. The WPPS is a strategic procurement statement that has the potential to indirectly affect people in Wales through its influence on procurement planning, supplier participation, employment practices, environmental outcomes, and the quality, accessibility and continuity of publicly procured goods, services and works. The nature and extent of any health impacts will depend on how WCAs apply the WPPS through individual procurement exercises and contract management arrangements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1.

7. Potentially affected groups include children and young people, working-age people, older people, disabled people, people with other protected characteristics, people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, rural and remote communities, Welsh-speaking communities, workers in public sector supply chains, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs), service users, carers and unpaid carers. Impacts may vary by place where there are differences in market capacity, transport infrastructure, digital connectivity, workforce availability or access to public services.

8. No specific health impacts have been identified.

Identification and assessment of effects on health

- Are there any intended effects of the decision on the physical and mental health of the population group(s) identified?

- Are there any unintended effects of the decision that are reasonably considered likely, on the physical and mental health of the population group(s) identified?

- Have you had due regard to the following:

  - **Wider determinants of health**: this means the social, economic, cultural and environmental factors that may affect people's health)?
  - **Health equity factors:** this means any differences in health outcomes and health opportunities (i.e. publicly available opportunities that could promote or improve physical or mental health) caused by any ground, including:
    (i) socio-economic status,
    (ii) geographic location, and
    (iii) the presence of a protected characteristic within the meaning of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Equality Act 2010.

- Consider both the **short term** and **long-term** effects in line with the 5 ways of working (Collaboration, Integration, Involvement, Long-term, Prevention).

Response

9. The WPPS is not mainly a health intervention and does not directly decide how health services are provided. Any health effects are likely to be indirect. They would mainly come through wider factors that affect physical and mental health, such as fair work, income security, skills, resilient services, sustainable procurement, community well-being and stronger local economies.

10. Positive effects may arise where procurement supports safe and inclusive workplaces, good-quality jobs, apprenticeships, stronger supply chains, accessible services, environmental improvements and community benefits. However, these are policy intentions rather than being guaranteed, they will depend on how individual procurements set, relevant, lawful, proportionate and measurable requirements, and how well those requirements are managed through contracts.

11. Possible unintended effects include placing too much pressure on smaller or

community-based providers, reducing supplier diversity, increasing market concentration, supplier failure, poor mobilisation, inaccessible digital processes, or benefits not reaching the communities most affected by disadvantage.

Evidence and engagement

- What evidence has been used? (e.g. research, data, previous assessments)
- Reflect on any evidence drawn from engagement/involvement with relevant population group in line with the 5 ways of working

Response

12. This assessment is based on the draft WPPS, Plaid Cymru Manifesto and the Programme for Government.

13. Together, these documents identify that the WPPS could affect health indirectly, through fair work, employment and skills, community wealth building, sustainable procurement, accessible and resilient public services, supplier reporting and contract management.

14. Development of the WPPS and IIA has also been informed by internal policy engagement (August 2026). This included input from areas such as health and social care policy official, fair work officials, foundational economy policy officials, social value and environmental policy officials.

15. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Health Impact Assessment updated.

Mitigation and enhancement

- What actions could reasonably be considered to **prevent**, **reduce or mitigate any negative effects**?
- What actions could reasonably be considered to increase **any positive effects**?

Response

16. Actions to prevent or reduce negative effects include:
    - checking through public consultation that the draft WPPS is clear, practical and proportionate.
    - providing accessible guidance, learning materials, tools and examples
    - engaging with the market early and in a proportionate way; and
    - making sure contract requirements, such as lotting, financial checks, insurance, accreditation and evidence, are appropriate for the procurement.

17. Actions to enhance positive effects include:
    - embedding fair work, safe and inclusive employment, jobs, skills and apprenticeships in relevant procurements;
    - applying sustainability, whole-life cost, carbon reduction and circular-economy considerations; using outcome-focused specifications and innovation;
    - selecting relevant Welsh Themes, Outcomes and Measures; and sharing effective practice.

18. These measures should be applied lawfully, proportionately and in a way that protects service quality, value for money and fair competition.

19. Monitoring and implementation arrangements should distinguish between policy outputs, intermediate outcomes and any longer-term health outcomes. They should also identify ownership, data sources and review points, including where consultation or implementation evidence indicates uneven effects across groups or places.

Overall health impacts

- Overall expected effect of the proposed decision on physical and mental health once mitigation / enhancement action taken: Positive
- Overall expected effect on health inequalities: Unclear

Response

20. Overall, the WPPS is intended to have a positive effect on physical and mental health. However, any health effects are likely to be indirect and the impact will depend on how well the WPPS is put into practice. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1.

21. There is the potential that the WPPS could help reduce health inequalities and may support better health outcomes by encouraging fair and safe work, jobs and skills, stronger local economies and supply chains, sustainable procurement, community benefits and improved public services. The extent of the impact will depend on how WCAs apply these procurement levers to relevant procurements, where it is appropriate and proportionate to the contract.

22. There is the potential that benefits could be reduced, or inequalities could increase, if the WPPS is not applied consistently or proportionately. This could happen if procurement processes are hard to access, local services are weakened, or benefits do not reach the communities facing the greatest disadvantage.

Influence on decision-making

- How has the HIA influenced the decision?
- What changes have been made as a result?
- What risks/negative effects remain?

Response

23. The HIA has highlighted the need to consider health as part of the WPPS, rather than as a separate issue. This is because the WPPS may affect the wider factors that influence people's health through procurement policy and practice. The assessment supports keeping clear references to health and well-being, reduced inequalities, fair work, safe and inclusive practice, sustainability, service outcomes and community benefits.

24. No significant direct negative health impact has been identified at this stage. The main risks are that the WPPS may be applied inconsistently, or that the benefits may not reach the communities facing the greatest disadvantage.

Monitoring and ongoing review

- How will effects on the physical and mental health be monitored?
- Are there any indicators or data sources identified?
- Is a further review required?

Response

25. Monitoring will be proportionate and focused on the mechanisms and risks identified through this HIA. It will be aligned with implementation of the WPPS, procurement reporting and contract management arrangements.

26. Relevant evidence may include commitments on fair work and employment, jobs, skills, apprenticeships and training, SME and VCSE participation, accessibility requirements, sustainability measures, contract performance, service continuity, complaints, contract failure and corrective action.

27. It may also include Welsh Themes, Outcomes and Measures data and Socially Responsible Procurement Annual Reports. These should be treated as implementation indicators, rather than direct measures of health impact.

28. Where a procurement has a credible link to health outcomes, WCAs may use proportionate feedback from service users, the workforce or suppliers. They may also draw on equality information, accessibility findings and relevant service outcomes. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Health Impact Assessment updated.

4. Welsh Language Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

2. **Does the proposal demonstrate a clear link with the Welsh Government’s strategy for the Welsh language? – *Cymraeg 2050 s* and the related *Work Programme* for 2021-2026?**

Describe and explain the impact of the proposal on the Welsh language and explain how you will address these impacts in order to improve outcomes for the Welsh language.

1. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

2. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

3. The WPPS outlines how public procurement can support this through supporting stronger local and regional supply chains, helping Welsh business and creating opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs). It supports applying fair work principles with sustainability a cross-cutting expectation.

4. The WPPS demonstrates a link with *Cymraeg 2050* in “Creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context”. Welsh language is considered a cross-cutting commitment within the WPPS. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the

WPPS, including how they can use public procurement to promote the Welsh language in conjunction with strengthening Welsh-speaking communities, and seek to improve the social and cultural well-being of Wales. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

5. The WPPS has the potential for a favourable impact on the Welsh language. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including considering how procurement levers may be used to strengthen Welsh-speaking communities and promote the Welsh language. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. For example, through bilingual apprenticeships, or implementing measures to reduce or remove the barriers for Welsh SMEs to participate in public procurements, (such as using lotting strategies and proportionate requirements to improve accessibility for SMEs and VCSEs).

How will the proposal affect Welsh speakers of all ages (both positive and/or adverse effects). You should include your response to the following when answering this question, and provide any other relevant information:

- **How will the proposal affect the sustainability of Welsh speaking communities[1] (both positive and/or adverse effects)?**

6. The WPPS is expected to have a positive impact on Welsh speaking communities, as WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the statement, including its expectation that they consider, how public procurement can strengthen Welsh speaking communities and promote the Welsh language. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. The procurement levers provided under the 'Delivery Framework' section in the WPPS offer opportunities where Welsh language can be utilised: for example, through bilingual apprenticeships, or reducing barriers for Welsh businesses and SMEs to tender for public procurements.

7. The extent of the impact will depend on how the procurement levers within the WPPS are applied to individual procurements to strengthen Welsh speaking communities, or to promote the Welsh language. This could result in some inconsistent application of the WPPS in this area. A potential mitigation, (currently under review), is to provide supporting materials for the WPPS that will be published alongside the statement, which could provide examples of how WCAs could apply the various procurement levers within the WPPS towards strengthening and promoting the Welsh language.

[1] These can be close-knit rural communities, dispersed social networks in urban settings, and in virtual communities reaching across geographical spaces.

- **How will the proposal affect Welsh medium education and Welsh learners of all ages, including adults (both positive and/or adverse effects)?**

8. The WPPS is not expected to directly affect, positively or adversely, Welsh medium education and Welsh learners of all ages, including adults. There is an indirect link within the statement, through its expectation that procurement can be used to promote the Welsh language, strengthen Welsh speaking communities and support wider well-being goals under the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'.

9. Welsh medium education or learning opportunities are not explicitly covered by the WPPS. Individual public procurements carried out using the WPPS may, however, impact Welsh medium education, or learning opportunities for Welsh learners of all ages, if the procurement is related to education, training opportunities in Welsh, or bilingual requirements for procurements and contract delivery requirements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, and also referring to relevant legislation, including the 'Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011'.

- **How will the proposal affect services[2] available in Welsh (both positive and/or adverse effects)? (e.g. health and social services, transport, housing, digital, youth, infrastructure, environment, local government etc.)**

10. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they consider how public procurement can improve the social and cultural well-being of Wales, strengthen Welsh-speaking communities where relevant, and support the use and promotion of the Welsh language. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

11. Impact would be dependent upon individual procurements, with WCAs responsible for understanding their statutory obligations when designing and delivering their procurements.

- **How will the proposal contribute to the sustainability and prosperity of the Welsh language in areas of high-density linguistic significance?**

12. Contribution will be dependent upon individual contract delivery within these areas. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, and utilise public procurement as a lever to strengthen the Welsh economy, with a cross-cutting expectation of strengthening Welsh communities and promoting the Welsh language.

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[2] The *Cymraeg 2050* strategy aims to increase the range of services offered to Welsh speakers, and to see an increase in use of Welsh-language services.

13. WCAs should consider the procurement levers within the WPPS, and how these can be implemented to help deliver the cross-cutting expectation of using procurement to strengthen Welsh-speaking communities and promote the Welsh language and community. For example, delivering apprenticeships, training and workforce development through the medium of Welsh, or implementing measures to reduce or remove the barriers for Welsh SMEs to participate in public procurements, (such as using lotting strategies and proportionate requirements to improve accessibility for SMEs and VCSEs).

14. One of the procurement levers available in the WPPS is to "Evidence how public spending is contributing to stronger communities, cultural well-being, the Welsh language and improved outcomes for Wales". The WPPS promotes the use of the Welsh 'Themes, Outcomes and Measures system' (TOMS), which is under development in Welsh Government, at the planning stage, to help select relevant and proportionate measures that define the social value and community benefits expected from the contract. There is an opportunity therefore, for WCAs to use TOMS to assist them in identifying how they can build cultural well-being in Wales through their public procurement, and contribute to the growth and sustainability of the Welsh language.

- **How will you ensure that people know about services that are available in Welsh and are able to access and use them as easily as they can in English? What evidence / data have you used to inform your assessment, including evidence from Welsh speakers or Welsh language interest groups?**

15. Procurement legislation – specifically the Procurement Act 2023 - requires WCAs within its scope to advertise their procurements through using the relevant procurement notices on both the Welsh digital platform (Sell2Wales) and the Central Digital Platform (UKG's digital platform).

16. Currently, only internal Welsh Government stakeholders whose portfolios were identified as being impacted by the proposed WPPS were engaged (August 2026) have been engaged. This included: Fair Work team; Steel policy officials; Food policy officials; Procurement delivery officials; Procurement policy and legislation officials; Environmental policy officials, including those with expertise in: decarbonisation net zero climate circular economy foundational economy; Social value policy officials and Health and Social Care policy officials.

17. The intention is to undertake further stakeholder engagement, which will be initiated through a public consultation on the WPPS, where suppliers, WCAs and members of

the public will be able to review the draft WPPS and provide comment. The public consultation will include questions concerning the potential impact of the WPPS on Welsh communities, and how the WPPS might affect the Welsh language.

- **What other evidence would help you to conduct a better assessment?**

18. Public consultation on the WPPS will include questions concerning the potential impact of the WPPS on Welsh communities, and how the WPPS might affect the Welsh language. Evidence from this consultation will be gathered and used to determine how the WPPS can be improved to mitigate any identified adverse effects, as well as strengthening any positive elements that have been identified.

- **How will you know if your policy is a success?**

19. The WPPS provides procurement levers for WCAs to evidence how their public spending is contributing to stronger communities, cultural well-being, the Welsh language and improved outcomes for Wales. The use of Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMS) system is encouraged, which provides the ability for WCAs to select relevant and proportionate measures that define the social value and community benefits expected from the contract. Measures can be added to specifications, award criteria, contract conditions and contract management arrangements (where lawful, relevant and proportionate). The WPPS also promotes requiring suppliers (as part of contract delivery) to provide regular TOMS monitoring to identify whether social value commitments are being delivered. This might be helpful in assisting in measuring whether Welsh language requirements are delivered.

20. Procurements could also include Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as part of contract management to ensure that Welsh language requirements are delivered to the required standard. More in-depth contract reporting can be used to monitor success by identifying where services have exceeded expectations, or where those who aren't meeting expectations and requires review.

More than Just Words: for all policy proposals developed by colleagues in HSCEY

21. **N/A –** 'More than just words' is not applicable to the WPPS, as the WPPS sets out a clear strategic public procurement vision. However, it does not impact on health and care service users/people.

5. Data Protection Impact Assessment Screening

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Please send your assessment to the Information Rights Unit copied to your Information Asset Owner.

Title of proposal: Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS)

Name of Information Asset Owner: Deputy Director, Policy & Legislation

PIA reference number (A unique number to identify this PIA such as DivDate or this document’s iShare ID): iShare ID: A64755398

Please describe your proposal:

(i) If this is a change to an existing Welsh Government system / project / process / policy then please outline the present arrangements (and how personal data is currently processed) and then outline the changes, including whether personal data will now be processed by or shared with third parties.

1. The revised WPPS 2026 will replace the current WPPS which was last updated in August 2022. The WPPS is a strategic policy statement, and does not establish a new operational system, database, identity-management process, personal-data collection or data-sharing arrangement.

2. The updated WPPS aligns policy and current procurement legislation to support the priority of strengthening the Welsh economy. The WPPS sets out a clear strategic vision for how public procurement can support this ambition, including how public procurement can help build the services and opportunities that Wales needs for the future.

(ii) If this is a new Welsh Government system / project / process / policy then please detail how the new system/ project/ process/ policy will work, including how the personal data will be processed and whether the personal data will be processed by or shared with 3rd parties.

3. N/A - The WPPS does not introduce a new system or process involving the collection, processing or sharing of personal data

(iii) IMPORTANT – Will the proposal involve the development of new legislation / measures that will require the processing of personal data by Welsh Government or any other parties? [NB, if the processing requires legislation or any form or regulatory measure to instruct a data controller, an Article 36(4) statutory consultation with the ICO is likely and advice should be sought from the IRU].

[Delete as appropriate]:

- No

Has data protection impact screening or assessment already been carried out?

- No

Does the proposal involve the processing of personal data by Welsh Government or any other parties?

- No: there is no need to complete the remainder of this form.

6. Biodiversity Impact Assessment

- In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Consider Questions 1 - 9 for ALL policies:

Embedding biodiversity

1. How will your proposal integrate biodiversity into decision making?

- Have you considered the impacts and positive opportunities for action for biodiversity at the early stages of thinking or project design?
    - What impacts will procurement have on biodiversity, including global biodiversity?
    - Are products sourced sustainably?
    - Does your project include the use of materials or practices harmful to biodiversity?
- Does it require partners and beneficiaries to consider the impacts and opportunities for positive action for biodiversity at the early stages of thinking and project design?
    - Is the consideration of biodiversity a requirement of funding applications and project specifications?
    - Does your evaluation of these seek to ensure that biodiversity is maintained and enhanced?

1. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

2. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

3. The WPPS does not directly integrate biodiversity into decision making. It identifies sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation. The WPPS includes protection of the natural environment, waste reduction, circular economy principles, whole-life costs and carbon impacts. This creates opportunities for WCAs

to identify biodiversity impacts and enhancement opportunities during planning, market engagement, specification, evaluation and contract management.

2. Has your proposal ensured biodiversity is accounted for in business decisions?

- Has it considered whole of life costs which include the value of biodiversity and natural resources within the cost benefit analysis, even if this is an informal process?
    - Have you thought about how enhancing biodiversity can help deliver across WG's activities for example, to support active recreation, education, flood prevention, and local food growing. (For example, green roofs help to provide wildlife habitats, reduce energy consumption and improve drainage systems.)
- Has it considered the long term costs of degradation of biodiversity and natural resources, and the potential for savings for health and well-being, flood risk etc?
- Can it encourage partners and beneficiaries to take these costs and savings into account?

4. The WPPS does not specifically require that biodiversity is accounted for in business decisions. As such, no biodiversity related costs have been identified.

5. The WPPS sets a clear strategic direction for how public procurement, using Welsh public spending, can strengthen the Welsh economy. Part of this requires WCAs to consider sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation within their individual procurements.

6. WCAs (who are included in the Act) are also reminded within the WPPS of their duty under the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015', which includes the goal of "A resilient Wales". This goal requires relevant WCAs to consider how their procurements can maintain and enhance a biodiverse natural environment.

7. WCAs should therefore consider natural-resource and biodiversity impacts within whole-life approaches where relevant and proportionate.

3. How does your proposal improve understanding and raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity, encouraging others to act?

- Can you work with partners and beneficiaries to promote understanding of biodiversity?
- Can you promote the benefits of access to biodiversity through the delivery of public goods and services such as social care, community development, health and recreation?
- Can you provide, or source, specialist training where necessary?
- Can you link to other communications strategies and initiatives for biodiversity, for example award schemes, local events?

8. The WPPS does not directly raise awareness of biodiversity, though it promotes sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation.

Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

4. Have you used the best available evidence of biodiversity to inform your proposal and this assessment?

- You **must** have regard to
  - the lists of species and habitats of principal importance published under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act
  - the State of Natural Resources Report
  - any relevant area statement published by NRW.
- If your proposal is in regard to construction or land management directly or indirectly, it should reference biodiversity records available through
  - Local Environment Record Centres
  - Atlas of Living Wales
  - Lle

9. The WPPS sets out a clear strategic vision for how public procurement can support the priority of strengthening the Welsh economy and building the services and opportunities Wales needs for the future. While sustainability is considered a cross-cutting expectation for WCAs, the proposal does not involve construction or land management, or directly impacts biodiversity concerns such as species and habitats. Therefore no specific biodiversity sources were identified when developing the WPPS, apart from completing this biodiversity screening impact assessment.

5. Have you used up to date knowledge of the key impacts on biodiversity to make evidence-based decisions?

- Do you know what the drivers of change and key negative factors are which could arise from your proposal?
- Are you satisfied that these do not apply or have been avoided?

10. The WPPS sets out a clear strategic direction for how public procurement can support the priority of strengthening the Welsh economy and building the services and opportunities Wales needs for the future. The WPPS is a strategic procurement statement rather than a land-use, regulatory or development proposal, and is not expected to have direct effects on biodiversity, though it promotes sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation. It would be for each WCA to determine whether their procurement will have impacts on biodiversity, and procurement decisions made by individual WCAs may give rise to biodiversity risks or opportunities depending on the goods, services or works being commissioned.

6. Can your proposal contribute to our body of knowledge for biodiversity?

- Can it support citizen-science initiatives, and monitoring schemes?

- Have you ensured that any biodiversity data collected is made publicly available?

11. The WPPS does not directly contain proposals that contribute to our knowledge of biodiversity. However, in accordance with paragraph 1, WCAs should consider what is proportionate and applicable to their individual procurements that might impact biodiversity.

Governance and support for delivery of biodiversity action

7. Can your proposal support biodiversity action in any way?

- Can staff get involved in practical action?
- Can you fund action directly, or indirectly?
- Can you support partnerships and/or collaboration for local and community-based biodiversity action?

12. In accordance with paragraph 1, WCAs should consider sustainability in their individual procurement, including how procurement can support net zero, whole-life costs and carbon impacts, apply the circular economy, reduce waste and protect the natural environment for future generations.

8. Can your proposal help to build capacity for biodiversity action?

- Can you support skills acquisition and training?
- Does your proposal ensure the appropriate level of qualifications of those involved in decision making regarding biodiversity?
- Can your proposal fund capacity building for biodiversity action?

13. The WPPS itself does not help build capacity for biodiversity action. However, there is the potential through individual procurements where WCAs should consider sustainability in their individual procurements in accordance with paragraph 1.

14. The WPPS may also support biodiversity outcomes through its wider environmental and sustainability objectives. Procurement activity can provide opportunities to reduce pressures on biodiversity through responsible sourcing, waste reduction, and the more sustainable use of resources. These approaches can also support public authorities in meeting their Section 6 biodiversity duty obligations.

9. Have you recorded decisions and actions to maintain and enhance biodiversity?

- A report on what the public authority has done to comply with the duty must be published by the end of 2019 and then every three years after this date.

15. How the WPPS might impact biodiversity has been considered during the impact assessment process, and while the WPPS supports sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation, no specific impacts have been identified.

If your proposal concerns construction or management of land and/or sea, please also consider Questions 10 – 16:

16. **N/A** – The WPPS does not concern construction or management of land/or sea so the following questions have not been completed.

7. Natural Resources Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

How will the proposal deliver one or more of the National Priorities in the Natural Resources Policy (NRP)?

- Delivering nature-based solutions;
- Increasing renewable energy and resource efficiency; and in doing so,
- Taking a place based approach.

2. The WPPS does not directly deliver one or more of the Natural Priorities in the NRP. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

3. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

4. However, the WPPS sets sustainability as a cross-cutting expectation. The WPPS includes protection of the natural environment, waste reduction, circular economy principles, whole-life costs and carbon impacts. This creates opportunities for WCAs to identify where natural resources would play an important part of the procurement, during the planning stage, market engagement, specification, evaluation and contract management.

5. **Delivering nature-based solutions**
   The WPPS can enable nature-based or ecosystem-resilient solutions where these are relevant to the subject matter and identified through outcome-based specifications and market engagement. It does not mandate a particular solution in all procurements.

6. In accordance with paragraph 1, WCAs should consider sustainability in their individual procurements, including how procurement can support net zero, whole-life costs and carbon impacts, the circular economy, waste reduction and protection of the natural environment for future generations.

7. This approach would support resource efficiency and may create opportunities for renewable or lower-resource solutions. The outcome will depend on individual

procurements – on what the specification and purpose of the contract, and supplier delivery.

8. **Place-based approach**
   There is the potential to support community wealth building. For example, through measures that support local and regional supply chains. The WPPS encourages WCAs to undertake, where appropriate, pre-market engagement which has the potential for WCAs to understand the needs of the local area. Sustainability is a cross-cutting expectation in the WPPS, so specifications considering sustainability (such as net zero, circular economy principles, and whole-life costs as well as carbon impacts) can positively impact local areas. Pre-market engagement could also support small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs) to participate. These methods have the potential to support place-based outcomes. However, procurement must remain open, fair, transparent and consistent with legal and international obligations.

Does the proposal help tackle the following national challenges and opportunities for the sustainable management of natural resources?

9. The WPPS does not specify particular approaches for sustainable management of natural resources, such as reducing noise pollution, or safeguarding and increasing carbon stores in soils and biomass. However, the WPPS identifies sustainability as a cross – cutting expectation and encourages WCAs to consider how sustainability can be reflected in relevant procurements, including the need for WCAs to determine which procurements would be best suited to take action to reduce pressures on natural resources, and consider how they can apply net zero, circular economy principles, whole-life costs and carbon impacts to relevant procurements. WCAs are asked to consider how their procurement can support protecting the natural environment for future generations.

8. Rural Proofing Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Describe and explain the impact of the proposal on rural people, businesses and communities.

2. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

3. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

4. The WPPS is expected to have a positive impact on rural people, businesses and communities by encouraging procurement practices that strengthen Welsh businesses, support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), promote fair work and increase the value retained within Wales.

5. WCAs within statutory scope of the Procurement Act 2023 must have regard to the WPPS and consider how they can apply it within their public procurements, and other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply it.

6. Many rural areas are home to businesses operating in sectors highlighted within the WPPS, including food and timber production and processing, construction, maintenance, facilities management, social care and professional services. By encouraging WCAs to consider how procurement can maximise economic benefits for Wales and Welsh communities, the policy has the potential to create opportunities for these businesses and support sustainable economic activity within rural communities.

7. The WPPS also promotes measures designed to improve access to public procurement opportunities. These include the publication of procurement pipelines, proportionate procurement requirements, early market engagement, lotting strategies and collaborative bidding approaches. Collectively, these measures are intended to reduce barriers to participation and encourage greater involvement from SMEs and voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs), including those operating in rural areas.

8. In addition to economic benefits, the WPPS recognises the importance of cultural and community well-being. The policy encourages procurement activity that supports stronger communities, promotes the Welsh language and contributes to long-term value for future generations.

9. The WPPS may also contribute to reducing rural inequalities through its emphasis on fair work, inclusive economic growth and community wealth building. These measures have the potential to support positive outcomes for rural communities, businesses and workers across Wales.

10. Internal stakeholders have been engaged (August 2026) in the initial development of the WPPS. These internal stakeholders were identified as those whose portfolios would likely be impacted by the proposed WPPS. This included:

    - Fair Work team
    - Steel policy officials
    - Food policy officials
    - Procurement delivery officials
    - Procurement policy and legislation officials
    - Environmental policy officials, including those with expertise in:
        - decarbonisation
        - net zero
        - climate
        - circular economy
        - foundational economy
    - Social value policy officials
    - Health and Social Care policy officials

11. Specific engagement with rural stakeholders has not been undertaken. However, further engagement is intended through a public consultation, which will invite further engagement, where suppliers, WCAs and members of the public will be able to review the draft WPPS and provide comment. Feedback from this public consultation will be considered and where applicable the WPPS will be amended, and, if appropriate, this rural impact assessment will be updated.

9. Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

1. Does your policy / activity impact Agriculture?

2. Yes, albeit indirectly. The WPPS is a procurement policy applying to WCAs who are in scope of the Procurement Act 2023. It does not regulate farming practices, agricultural production, agricultural support schemes or land management.

3. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

4. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities, which may be accessed by agricultural businesses and / or agricultural support.

2. Is the policy / activity related to support for agriculture, other activities carried out on land used for agriculture, or ancillary activities?

5. No direct land management requirements are included. The policy focuses on procurement decision making and procurement outcomes, which may be accessed by the sector and / or agricultural divisions within Welsh Government through their procurement frameworks.

3. Is the policy / activity related to the regulation of agriculture, other activities carried out on land used for agriculture, or ancillary activities?

6. Not directly. The WPPS creates the strategic framework which may be used across the agricultural sector but it does not establish agricultural subsidy, payment or support mechanisms directly.

If the answer is yes to any of the above, you will need to consider the impact of your policy (support or regulation) in line with the SLM objectives and the SLM duty of the Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023.

SLM Impact Assessment:

Question 2: Describe and explain the impact of the proposal on agriculture, or other activities carried out on land used for agriculture, or ancillary activities, against the SLM objectives of the Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023.

7. Direct impacts against the SLM objectives would be delivered under individual procurements. The extent of the impact will depend on the context of the procurement and how the procurement levers within the WPPS are applied within individual procurements. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1.

8. The WPPS reminds in scope WCAs of their duty under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It also encourages those WCAs not captured by this Act to consider how their procurement activity can contribute to sustainable development.

9. Sustainability is a cross-cutting expectation of the WPPS, with the WPPS also promoting building resilient supply chains, supporting stronger local and regional supply chains and helping Welsh business compete. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including these commitments. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply these approaches where relevant and appropriate.

10. This can be achieved by WCAs seeking to reduce or remove barriers for Welsh businesses and Welsh small and medium sized-enterprises (SMEs), through the procurement levers provided in the WPPS – such as notifying the market early of upcoming procurements via pipeline notices, greater pre-market engagement and use of lotting (breaking larger contracts into smaller opportunities to reduce barriers). These actions could reduce or remove barriers for SMEs and Welsh business to access public procurement, and assist in reducing the length of supply chains, and increasing local food procurement.

11. Sustainability is also a cross-cutting expectation of the WPPS. The statement encourages in scope WCAs to support net zero, reduce waste, apply circular economy principles, consider whole-life costs and carbon impacts, and protect the natural environment.

12. This creates opportunities for in scope WCAs to identify where natural resources, impacts on the climate, or ecosystem resilience, would play an important part of the procurement. These factors should be considered during the planning stage, market engagement, specification, evaluation and contract management.

13. As touched upon in the Rural Impact Assessment, the WPPS recognises the importance of cultural and community well-being. The policy encourages

procurement activity that supports stronger communities, promotes the Welsh language and contributes to long-term value for future generations.

Question 3: Consider how your policy will be implemented in the way that best contributes to achieving the SLM objectives (so far as consistent with the proper exercise of the function).

14. How the WPPS is implemented that best contributes to achieving the SLM objectives is dependent on how WCAs approach individual procurements.

15. There is potential for a positive contribution where in scope WCAs consider the sustainability principles in the WPPS, and their duty under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, against the procurement levers available within the statement. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS where relevant and appropriate.

16. The WPPS supports use of pipeline notices to notify the market of upcoming procurements, to undertake where appropriate greater pre-market engagement and use of lotting (breaking larger contracts into smaller opportunities to reduce barriers). These actions could reduce or remove barriers for SMEs and Welsh business to access public procurement and assist in reducing the length of supply chains.

17. Stronger supply chains and greater opportunities for SMEs and Welsh businesses to successfully tender could positively contribute to stronger local food procurement, and reduction in carbon footprint.

18. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that procurement is used, where appropriate, to support net zero, reduce waste, apply circular economy principles, consider whole-life costs and carbon impacts, and protect the natural environment. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. By considering these options when procuring, there is the potential for positively mitigating climate change effects and enhancing the resilience of ecosystems. Resilient ecosystems have the potential to improve biodiversity and the natural environment.

19. The WPPS encourages procurement activity that supports stronger communities, promotes the Welsh language and contributes to long-term value for future generations. Welsh language is considered a cross-cutting commitment within the WPPS. In accordance with paragraph 1, WCAs should use procurement to promote the Welsh language where possible.

20. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they consider how procurement can strengthen Welsh-speaking communities and improve the social and cultural well-being of Wales. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate. This could occur through jobs, apprenticeships and improved access to

opportunities for Welsh businesses, (for example, utilising pre-market engagement or smaller contracts through lots).

10. Carbon Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

How will the proposal affect greenhouse gas emissions? N/A

No significant change in emissions

2. Officials have considered the carbon impact of this statement. We have not quantified the emissions associated with it because we expect them to fall below the threshold for a quantitative analysis. We have high confidence in our assessment.

3. The WPPS is expected to have a positive influence on the consideration of carbon impacts within public procurement through its support for net zero, circular economy principles, waste reduction, whole-life costing and sustainable supply chains. However, the policy does not introduce specific mandatory requirements, targets or interventions that can be quantified as leading directly to emissions changes of approximately 200,000 tonnes CO_2 emissions over its lifetime.

4. Any carbon impacts are expected to be indirect, dependent on procurement decisions subsequently taken by WCAs and the contracts they award. The WPPS largely reflects and brings together existing Welsh Government procurement policy positions and expectations, many of which are already in operation and have been considered through their own policy development, assessment and implementation processes.

5. As a result, the WPPS itself is not expected to generate additional greenhouse gas impacts beyond those already associated with the underlying policies it references. Whilst the statement continues to support sustainable procurement practices and reinforces the importance of considering carbon impacts in procurement decision-making, a significant change in greenhouse gas emissions cannot be evidenced from this revision of the WPPS.

11. Duty of Quality (Health)

In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

Only if your policy has any impacts on the provision of health services or on health outcomes, will you need to complete this section of the IIA.

1. The WPPS does not impact on the provision of health services or on health outcomes, so the ‘Duty of Quality (Health) impact assessment has not been completed.

2. While the WPPS can be used by WCAs to consider health-related procurements, the WPPS itself does not seek to regulate health functions, or how health-related services should be delivered.

3. The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

4. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

Could the proposal affect the quality of health services?

5. No. The proposal concerns procurement policy and does not directly affect the delivery, quality, or standards of health services. The Duty of Quality is concerned with improving the quality of health services and health outcomes where health functions are being exercised.

Does the proposal relate to Welsh Ministers exercising health functions?

6. No. The proposal relates to public procurement policy rather than health service functions or healthcare policy.

Could the proposal affect commissioning, management, assurance or performance of health services?

7. No. The proposal does not change how health services are commissioned, managed, assured or delivered. Any impacts on NHS organisations would arise through their procurement activity rather than healthcare provision.

Are any potential impacts limited to wider health and wellbeing outcomes?

8. Yes. Any effects are indirect and relate to wider determinants of health and wellbeing, which are more appropriately considered through the Health Impact Assessment rather than the Duty of Quality assessment.

12. Socio-economic Duty Impact Assessment

1. In this document, “Welsh Contracting Authorities” or “WCAs” means all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds, unless the context indicates otherwise. References to a legal duty to have regard to the Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS) apply only to those WCAs within the scope of section 14 of the Procurement Act 2023. However, the Welsh Government intends the principles and expectations described in this document to be relevant to all contracting authorities undertaking procurement in Wales or spending Welsh public funds. WCAs that are not subject to the statutory duty are therefore strongly encouraged to apply the WPPS, where relevant and appropriate.

2. **Name of decision:** Wales Procurement Policy Statement (WPPS)

3. **Purpose/ Aim of decision:** The WPPS provides the strategic direction for public procurement in Wales and seeks to maximise the economic, social, environmental and cultural value generated through more than £11 billion of annual public expenditure.

4. The WPPS introduces a single overarching priority: strengthening the Welsh economy through public procurement. It aims to build a stronger, fairer and more resilient economy, retain more value within Wales, and increase the benefits delivered to Welsh businesses, workers and communities.

Agreed rationale for whether this is a ‘strategic decision’ or not:

1) Does this decision have the potential to reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage?

Please provide details of inequalities of outcome that could be reduced within the scope of the decision.

5. The WPPS sets out a clear strategic vision of how public procurement can be used to strengthen the Welsh economy and build the services and opportunities that Wales needs for the future. It does not directly impact earning potential, physical and mental health, or educational attainment. However, fair work is an important element of the WPPS. WCAs should, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, embed Fair Work and well-being outcomes where relevant and appropriate in their procurements.

6. WCAs within statutory scope must have regard to the WPPS, including its expectation that they promote fair work through public procurement by encouraging secure and rewarding employment, ensuring through specifications, award criteria and contract conditions that workforce development, secure employment, fair reward, equality and safe working practices are supported. Other WCAs are strongly encouraged to apply this approach where relevant and appropriate.

7. As such, there is the potential for implementation of the WPPS to indirectly support better earning potential through secure employment and fair reward, with potentially increased positive mental health through equality and safe working conditions.

8. The WPPS supports investment in local skills, employability and progression opportunities, such as using apprenticeships, offering training and workforce development and allowing for these in tender specifications. WCAs should apply the WPPS as appropriate, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, including how they could apply these procurement levers within their public procurements. This could positively impact the earning potential and offer better standards of living.

9. Community wealth building seeks to strengthen local supply chains, retaining value in Welsh communities. WCAs should, according to the statement given at paragraph 1, use public procurement to support the delivery of social, economic and community well-being where possible, which has the potential to contribute to increased accessibility to services, and/or participation in community activities, and reducing inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.

2) What information do you have about people who are affected by inequalities of outcome relevant to this decision? Please consider protected characteristic groups, population groups / communities of interest and communities of place. Where evidence is not available, or you are unsure, please indicate this clearly.

Please provide an overview.

10. Internal stakeholders have initially been consulted, (August 2026), including the Welsh Government Fair Work Team. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Socio-economic Duty impact assessment will be updated.

3) How have you gathered this information relating to people affected by your decision? For example, this could be through engagement with socio-economically disadvantaged communities, equality data, or research and evidence drawn from other impact assessments (e.g. Equality or Health Impact Assessments).

Please provide an overview

11. Internal stakeholders have initially been consulted, (August 2026), however, further evidence will be gathered during public consultation. Public consultation will enable the wider public to review the WPPS and provide comment. If specific impacts (positive or negative) are identified these will be acknowledged and the Socio-economic Duty impact assessment will be updated.

4) Do you have an audit trail showing when and how the Socio-economic Duty has been considered throughout the decision-making process?

Please outline what evidence you have to demonstrate this and include links to any supporting documents.

12. Internal stakeholders have initially been consulted (August 2026), including the Fair Work Team who had the opportunity to review the WPPS. Feedback from this public consultation will be considered and where applicable the WPPS will be amended, and, if appropriate, this Socio-economic Duty impact assessment will be updated.

5) Please summarise how this decision will impact inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage.

13. The WPPS has the potential to decrease inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage through encouraging the use of apprenticeships within procurement specifications, fair work practices such as secure employment and fair rewards, training and workforce development.