#### Shropshire Council Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA) Initial Screening Record 2021-2022

#### A. Summary Sheet on Accountability and Actions

#### Name of proposed service change

Future Oswestry Plan – adoption of vision document prepared in partnership with Oswestry Business Improvement District (BID) and Oswestry Town Council, following consultation undertaken in 2022.

#### Name of lead officer carrying out the screening

Joe Bubb, Senior Projects Officer

#### Decision, review, and monitoring

Decision	Yes	No
Initial (part one) ESHIA Only?		
Proceed to Full ESHIA or HIA (part two) Report?	$\checkmark$	

If completion of an initial or Part One assessment is an appropriate and proportionate action at this stage, please use the boxes above. If a Full or Part Two report is required, please move on to full report stage once you have completed this initial screening assessment as a record of the considerations which you have given to this matter.

# Actions to mitigate negative impact or enhance positive impact of the service change in terms of equality, social inclusion, and health considerations

The development and delivery of the Future Oswestry Plan, which was commenced in 2020 is anticipated to have a positive impact on communities in Oswestry and Shropshire as a whole. The aim of the Future Oswestry Plan is to create a collective vision, to help guide Oswestry's future through ongoing engagement processes and inclusive approaches. It sets the aims, aspirations and vision for now and for the future ensuring that the Future Oswestry Group (FOG) of Shropshire Council, Oswestry BID and Oswestry Town Council take a proactive approach, alongside communities, and businesses, in consideration of what communities would want to see happen within the town as part of the Plan.

Two Community Representatives have been appointed to support and advise the Future Oswestry Group on Oswestry as a better place to live and do business, developing local assets, skills and learning, aiding young people; developing flexible start up working accommodation; and action to address access challenges for those living in low income households and/or those travelling in from rural areas, e.g. fuel poverty and digital / broadband connectivity issues.

The consultation on the draft Future Oswestry Plan ran for 6 weeks from 9th February to 24th March 2022. The survey explored how people feel about the vision and the opportunities for each of the main locations. The survey was also used to determine priorities and which 'big ideas' are most important to local people.

- 192 people responded to the survey. Most are members of the public living within or near Oswestry with much smaller numbers representing local businesses or other interests.
- Those responding to the survey represented a mix of gender, age group and lifestyles, helping to ensure some diversity of views/experiences.
- The survey results highlighted accessibility as a strong theme throughout the questions and two more targeted questions highlighted the importance of future plans considering people with limited mobility, wheelchair users and those with limited travel options available to them.
- Survey respondents were asked for any comments on diversity, equality and inclusion and the main issues raised were the importance of accessibility through the town (e.g. access, parking, pavements, toilets); dial-a-ride, consideration of lower income households, the need for affordable/social housing and consideration of local businesses.

The engagement that has taken place over the last few years has led to the development of the Future Oswestry Plan but this does not mean the end of engagement. There will be more opportunities for people to have their say and influence developments as the vision is followed, plans are implemented and the Big Ideas move forward.

As stated, there will be ongoing efforts to engage with people in the Protected Characteristic groupings, particularly where low levels of responses to public engagement and consultation have been received to date, and where there may be low levels of response in relation to emerging projects and activities identified within the Delivery Plan.

The Future Oswestry Group is working alongside the appointed Community Representatives to develop engagement approaches and opportunities with key stakeholders and wider public engagement to discuss the development and delivery of project ideas. The plan is not a blueprint but the start of a process of deciding potential projects and initiatives. Further engagement will follow as the vision and ambitions develop into clearer proposals.

There will also be efforts made to engage with groupings and their advocates where links may usefully be made with specific target groups such as people with health problems and disabilities. Actions may then be more readily identified from evidence gathered to enhance the positive impact of the Plan for these groupings, leading to better outcomes overall for communities in Shropshire

Positive impacts would be intended for a variety of intersecting groupings (Age, Disability, Pregnancy and Maternity, Sex and Social Inclusion) through these

engagement processes and through the delivery of specific projects sitting within the Plan itself.

### Actions to review and monitor the impact of the service change in terms of equality, social inclusion, and health considerations

The responses to the previous public and stakeholder consultation undertaken in 2020 and 2021 to date were used to inform the draft Future Oswestry. Ongoing engagement with stakeholders as part of the vision preparation sought to ensure that stakeholders and their input were central to the proposals put forward, enabling 'sense checking' throughout. The engagement that has taken place over the last few years has led to the development of the Future Oswestry Plan but this does not mean the end of engagement. There will be more opportunities for people to have their say and influence developments as the vision is followed, plans are implemented and the Big Ideas move forward.

Overall the feedback from the consultation undertaken on the vision is very positive. The majority of people agree with the vision statements and the comments suggest that rather than elements being missing from the vision, the themes highlighted are all essential in helping to achieve the vision. The consultation has provided responses and comments which help to further understand the issues that matter most, but it has also highlighted that there is not necessarily consensus in all areas and more of a range of opinions.

A few comments called for ongoing opportunity to get involved and for engagement work to continue as future stages of work develop and the Future Oswestry Plan is implemented. This commitment to get involved and feed in views is really valuable and many of the comments highlight how much people value Oswestry as a place to live or visit.

The Future Oswestry Group is working alongside the appointed Community Representatives to develop engagement approaches and opportunities with key stakeholders and wider public engagement to discuss the development and delivery of project ideas. The plan is not a blueprint but the start of a process of deciding potential projects and initiatives. Further engagement will follow as the vision and ambitions develop into clearer proposals. Updates will continue to be posted on Shropshire Council's Future Oswestry webpages and further engagement will follow at each key stage of implementation.

As part of the delivery of the Future Oswestry Plan it will be necessary to develop a clear communications and relationship plan to underpin the priorities and objectives of the Plan. This will involve regular communications with residents and businesses and engage key stakeholder groups and networks.

The delivery plan to support the Future Oswestry Plan is fully intended to be a working document, especially against an ever changing economic and political landscape. The Future Oswestry Plan summarises the intended outcomes and details key areas, movement vision and recommendations for proposed changes. It also details the commercial opportunities they present and identify the public benefit that continues to put people at the heart of the place.

The Future Oswestry Group, led by representatives of Shropshire Council, Oswestry BID and Oswestry Town Council, will continue to build on their relationships with businesses, organisations, and networks to achieve shared objectives, and maximise their use of communication channels for effective and positive outcomes. Alongside this the Council will continue to look at best practice, encourage comments and ideas from residents and actively encourage the participation of local community and business groups in the development and delivery of the Future Oswestry Plan and associated action plans. The Future Oswestry Group benefits from a Board and Chair who oversee the strategic development of its Plan, alongside a formal partnership arrangement. Alongside this the Future Oswestry Group is further supported by an Oswestry Heritage Action Zone Board and a Cultural Consortium, designated to channel, and drive the specific aspects of the HAZ (Heritage Action Zones) also referenced in the Future Oswestry Plan.

Two voluntary Community Representatives have been appointed to support the work of the Future Oswestry Group, specifically to:

- Provide advice and support to Future Oswestry partnership and the community it represents, to shape the future involvement and collaboration for the enhancement of the town
- Seek and represent the wider interests of Oswestry voluntary and community sector, and
- provide feedback to key interest groups and the wider sector.
- Consider and advice Future Oswestry partners on how to secure full involvement from those groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

The Future Oswestry Group will also find merit in making due reference to and use of other policy strands within the Council and for partners in the development and review of the Delivery Plan to support priorities identified within the Plan, around transport, healthy lifestyles, use of green space, air quality issues, public protection measures such as the Public Space Protection Order in place in Shrewsbury and other safeguarding policies. Taken together, these wider societal and environmental considerations will contribute towards helping to create a welcoming environment across all groupings within the community, thereby aiding the intended positive impacts.

There will also be efforts made to engage with groupings and their advocates where links may usefully be made with specific target groups such as people with health problems and disabilities. Actions may then be more readily identified from evidence gathered to enhance the positive impact of the Plan for these groupings, leading to better outcomes overall for communities in Shropshire

This ongoing work will include efforts to strengthen engagement with people in Protected Characteristic groupings and people at risk of social exclusion, to maximise positive health impact benefits for individuals and for the wider community, and to define and deliver actions accordingly to mitigate any negative impact and enhance positive impact of the Plan in its draft and final versions. From an outcomes angle for communities, engagement with all Members as community leaders, and through Cabinet and Portfolio Holder, will help the service area and therefore the Council to ensure that information, feedback, and concerns are raised through a variety of channels and that actions may then be identified as necessary to seek to mitigate any negative impacts

#### Associated ESHIAs

An initial ESIIA was undertaken for the development of the Future Oswestry Plan to ensure public engagement activities continued to engage with Protected Characteristic Groupings, especially in light of the current and ongoing Covid-19 restrictions limiting face to face engagement practices.

An updated ESHIA was undertaken specifically for the consultation on the draft Future Oswestry Plan. This has now been updated as part of this ESHIA to demonstrate that the Future Oswestry Group's ongoing approaches to continuous engagement with Protected Characteristic groupings as part of the development and delivery of the Delivery Plan.

ESIIAs were previously carried out in relation to the development of the Council's Economic Growth Strategy 2017 -2021, before and following public consultation. These provide useful additional context for the overall strategic policy of the Council towards economic growth as an integral element of place shaping approaches across the County.

ESIIAs in relation to the Local Plan Partial Review also provide complementary detail not least with regard to longer term approaches to infrastructure planning and provision. Given the policy implications associated with highways those undertaken in related service areas with regard to transport and movement strategies are also relevant.

Actions to mitigate negative impact, enhance positive impact, and review and monitor overall impacts in terms of any other considerations. This includes climate change considerations

Whilst this Plan is economically focused there are benefits likely to accrue in terms of equality, diversity, and social inclusion, associated with a resilient economy such as increased employment opportunity, provision of housing, infrastructure benefits, facilities and utilities, climate change considerations and well-being improvements which is a key driver of the Future Oswestry Plan.

There are a number of key goals that include planning for future sustainable growth and regeneration, encouraging new investments, environmental quality, enhanced accessibility and mobility, opening up the housing market within the town, re-use of empty properties, increasing choice and improving affordability, and the desire to build strong physical and virtual networks, connecting movement, transport interventions, education, healthcare, business start-ups, new industries and cultural offer across the town.

Detail relating to both climate change and health and well-being consideration is provided within the Future Oswestry Plan vision. A particular focus is improving movement and reducing traffic congestion.

Following the engagement work undertaken, the vision statement sets out the three core objectives:

- A better place to live
- A better place for business, and
- A healthier and more sustainable town.

The Future Oswestry Plan sets out the route map to achieve these objectives and suggests areas of focus and project ideas to be explored and investigated further.

These emerging project ideas will be robustly tested through options appraisals and the development of a business case informed by evidence-base, which will consider impact on Climate Change, Health and Well-being, and Economic and societal/wider community impacts that are anticipated for economic growth.

The Future Oswestry Group acknowledge the importance of effective engagement and building relationships in order to communicate growth ambitions and how they will be achieved through the Future Oswestry Plan for Oswestry, along with the Shropshire Plan and Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy. Through formal mechanisms such as Town Council, encouraging involvement by local residents in place shaping should serve to further enhance the positive societal impacts as well as the wider positive impacts that are anticipated for economic growth.

Overall, new development and infrastructure must meet "the Oswestry Test" – does it support our vision? Does it strengthen the identity of Oswestry? Is it right for that part of town, and most importantly, does it make life better for people? Ensuring these principles and goals are in place help mitigate negative impact of the plan and use it to bolster more positive impacts available through its implementation.

The overall approach is consistent with the Council's strategic vision and objectives included in the Shropshire Plan, Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy and Oswestry Place Plan along with emerging Local Development Plan and as such creates a platform for new investment and encouraging Oswestry as a better place to live and do business.

The priorities identified within the Future Oswestry Plan consultation relating to the town centre vision and ideas formed part of the submission to the Levelling Up Fund round 2 in July 2022.

	<b>Scrutiny</b>	at Pa	<u>art One</u>	screening	<u>stage</u>
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People involved Signatures Date	
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Lead officer carrying out the screening	BUBD	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
Any internal service area support*		
Any external support**		30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
Mrs Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist	Lois Dale	

\*This refers to other officers within the service area

\*\*This refers to support external to the service but within the Council, e.g., the Rurality and Equalities Specialist, the Feedback and Insight Team, performance data specialists, Climate Change specialists, and Public Health colleagues

#### Sign off at Part One screening stage

Name	Signatures	Date	
Lead officer's name			
Accountable officer's name			

\*This may either be the Head of Service or the lead officer

#### B. Detailed Screening Assessment

#### Aims of the service change and description

Oswestry is the second largest town in Shropshire, with a current population of 17,400 – with an intention, as detailed within the Local Plan Review, as a Principal Centre delivering 1,900 dwellings and making available 57 hectares of employment land to 2038

Additional to this there are a number of hubs for development in and around Oswestry which will increase demand on the town centre as the nearest key centre. It is also a border town with strong connectivity to Powys and Wrexham counties.

By way of comparison, whilst Shropshire is a predominantly rural large county, with just under one person per hectare (0.98 persons; 313,400 population; source ONS (Office for National Statistics) mid-year estimates 2016), for a terrain covering 319,736 hectares, around 34% of Shropshire's population lives in villages, hamlets and dwellings dispersed throughout the countryside.

The Future Oswestry Plan as such enables and supports the delivery of the Shropshire Plan and Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy, which sets out the Council's commitment to grow the local economy of key Market Towns. The Future Oswestry Plan takes this a step further, reflecting on the unique geographical location and nature of Oswestry, its key areas of growth, opportunity, and ambition, enabling a strong framework for regeneration, external funding, and a platform for partnership to be developed and secured.

Preparing a clear vision is an important milestone in defining the key objectives and identifying the series of actions that the Council and partners will take to achieve economic growth over the coming years.

The vision outlines the ways that this will be achieved through detailing a number of priority actions and targets and acknowledges that whilst the Council does not have control over all the activities and actions which will generate economic growth the council is fully committed to working collaboratively across the public and private sectors and with communities in order to achieve its economic ambitions.

The Future Oswestry Plan is the outcome of a collaborative process lead by Future Oswestry Group, made up of Oswestry Town Council, Shropshire Council and Business Improvement District. The process to date has brought together business representatives, elected Members, educational establishments, and public sector officers to create a collective vision and strategy, to help guide Oswestry's future. It sets the aims, aspirations, and vision for Oswestry now and for the future.

The overall purpose of the Future Oswestry Plan is to provide the basis on which to develop an investment prospectus, to attract appropriate investors and provide short, medium, and long-term actions and intervention opportunities in Oswestry. This will provide clarity to the town's vision, aspirations, and development opportunities and how they can contribute.

It also provides a strong statement for residents, employers, and visitors to Oswestry of how they can expect their town to develop over time, and how that growth and change is being planned, coordinated, and communicated.

Its original intention remains; providing an opportunity to create a new plan that had renewed relevance, engagement, and stakeholder buy-in. Starting from the point that successful towns and cities need strong leadership and active stewardship the collaborative approach undertaken by Shropshire Council has created co-ownership of a vision for Oswestry with a number of parties that will steer its future direction.

The creation of a framework plan provides flexibility to reflect changing market demands, and 'windfall' opportunities whilst providing a set of key principles that draw on adopted Council Development Plan policies and underpin the future development of Oswestry.

#### Intended audiences and target groups for the service change

The intended immediate audience for the Future Oswestry Plan is everyone who lives in, works in or visits Oswestry. Given its key centre status as the second largest town, and its proximity to the Welsh border, there is also a wider impact across into Wales and on Shropshire as a whole and its direct hinterlands and therefore all groupings within the community, as well as those who serve them.

By this we mean the Council, town and parish councils, the wider business and education sector, the voluntary and community sector, the health and social care sector, and organisations and bodies involved in enabling and facilitating economic growth.

We also mean neighbouring authorities, including Herefordshire and Telford and Wrekin Council as part of the triumvirate of local authorities in the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership, and authorities across the borders into Wales.

The main stakeholder groups were identified as follows:

- Local businesses
- Business partnerships and support bodies, including the Shropshire Business Board.
- Partnerships and providers of learning, skills and employment opportunities
- Rural and environmental partnerships
- Public sector bodies
- Town and Parish councils
- Housing providers
- Voluntary and Community Sector organisations (including social enterprise)
- Shropshire Council Elected Members and Officers
- Members of the public
- Members of Parliament in Shropshire
- Organisations with strategic and cross boundary economic and environmental interests, including neighbouring local authorities, and the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- A range of stakeholders, including the development industry, local businesses, housing associations, utilities companies, transport and the land based sector.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive or in order of priority and will be added to and amended as and when appropriate, including through feedback from consultation.

#### Evidence used for screening of the service change

In developing the work undertaken in 2020 and moving towards the development of an 'investable plan', a competitive tender process was undertaken for the conceptual master planning with accompanying movement and access strategy, funded by the FOG Partnership, comprising Shropshire Council, Oswestry Town Council and Oswestry Business Improvement District (BID). An experienced multi-disciplinary consultancy team, led by Allies and Morrisons (AAM) were awarded the contract in July 2020.

As part of the Brief, all previous evidence including Oswestry 2020 Neighbourhood Plan, Oswestry Place Plan, Public Realm Strategy along with key partner business plans were provided to AAM, and their multi-disciplinary team, to support the creation of the Future Oswestry Plan.

These included the evidence based used initially in the contract brief, and updated information was provided by Shropshire Council's Insights Team alongside other sources of data that the consultancy team accessed, licenced, and commissioned in order to fulfil the brief.

Full details on the draft Future Oswestry Plan and consultation arrangements were presented to Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, where it was agreed to undertake the public consultation exercise to further inform the process and to gather the views of the community as a whole.

The survey feedback from the Future Oswestry Plan is available on the Future Oswestry webpages alongside a copy of the updated Future Oswestry Plan.

## Specific consultation and engagement with intended audiences and target groups for the service change

The details below show planned activity associated with commission and Future Oswestry development work undertaken by the AAM and Future Oswestry Group to develop the Future Oswestry Plan:

- 1. Initial stakeholder engagement, online survey work and distribution of postcode flyers to local households to be carried out from 19<sup>th</sup> of October to 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2020 (period of 4 weeks)
- 2. Emerging vision and opportunities collated, feedback, tested and reviewed through two workshops with key stakeholders (held 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 and 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2021)
- 3. Designated youth engagement with education providers to gather young people views and feedback commenced (held 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2021)
- 4. Further engagement was undertaken through a mix of workshops, online meetings, static displays, and face to face market stalls (held July September 2021)
- 5. Development of designated website for Future Oswestry Group in May 2021 was promoted through a variety of media channels. Included in this is a designated email contact to support regular feedback from the community.

- 6. The post of Community Representative was advertised, and two volunteer Community Representatives have been appointed to support the Future Oswestry Group.
- 7. Following feedback from the extended engagement activities, the proposed draft content has now been revised by the Future Oswestry Group.
- 8. The Economic Growth function will co-ordinate the consultation with Oswestry BID and Oswestry Town Council to undertake the public consultation exercise via Future Oswestry Group, anticipated to be launched in February 2022.
- 9. The consultation focused on identifying key elements, observations, and recommendations within the report, prepared by the consultancy team led by AAM. The consultation process was articulated with narrative, text, maps, CGI's (computer generated images) and other visual/diagrammatic aids to seek views and feedback from the public and wider stakeholders.

**Key Audiences** 

- Residents of Oswestry and Shropshire
- Businesses
- Elected Members
- Stakeholders public and private sector who have been involved and contributed plus other interested parties including investors (public and private) that can add value to the Future Oswestry Plan
- Voluntary and community organisations
- Visitors to the town
- 10. The draft Future Oswestry Plan was made available in a number of formats and disseminated in a number of ways to ensure the target audiences listed were engaged with. These included:
  - Circulating directly to secondary schools, VI form and FE Students.
  - Ability to call Customer services for a paper version
  - Available on-line / social media.
  - Posters in Town Council noticeboards etc
  - Wider Comms Radio Shropshire / Shropshire Star.
  - Static displays in key locations
  - Copy of Future Oswestry Plan vision in the Oswestry library and Town Council
- 11. The public consultation on the draft Future Oswestry Plan vision ran from Wednesday 9 February to Thursday 24 March 2022 seeking the views of residents, community groups, businesses, and stakeholders. Activities included:
  - Drop-in exhibitions at key locations in the town were held during the consultation period attracting over 300 people.

- Displays were located at venues around the town including Oswestry Town Council, Oswestry Library, Leisure centre, Morrisons Supermarket and on the high street.
- The vision was discussed at public meetings in the town and workshops held with students from Marches School and Oswestry School.
- 12. The outcomes of the consultation have been evaluated by Shropshire Council's Insights Team and presented to the Future Oswestry Group for discussion with recommendations.
- 13. The outcome of the consultation and a final version of the Future Oswestry Plan is to be reported to Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

The Future Oswestry Group is working alongside the appointed Community Representatives to develop engagement approaches and opportunities with key stakeholders and wider public engagement to discuss the development and delivery of project ideas. The plan is not a blueprint but the start of a process of deciding potential projects and initiatives. Further engagement will follow as the vision and ambitions develop into clearer proposals.

Updates will continue to be posted on Shropshire Council's Future Oswestry webpages and further engagement will follow at each key stage of implementation.

The Future Oswestry vision sets out the three core objectives:

- a better place to live
- a better place for business, and
- a healthier and more sustainable town,

which, aligns directly to the objectives within the Shropshire Plan.

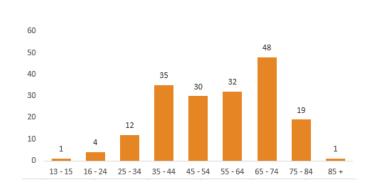
The consultation on the draft Future Oswestry Plan ran for 6 weeks from 9th February to 24th March 2022. The survey explored how people feel about the vision and the opportunities for each of the main locations. The survey was also used to determine priorities and which 'big ideas' are most important to local people.

- 192 people responded to the survey. Most are members of the public living within or near Oswestry with much smaller numbers representing local businesses or other interests.
- Those responding to the survey represented a mix of gender, age group and lifestyles, helping to ensure some diversity of views/experiences.
- The survey results highlighted accessibility as a strong theme throughout the questions and two more targeted questions highlighted the importance of future plans considering people with limited mobility, wheelchair users and those with limited travel options available to them.
- Survey respondents were asked for any comments on diversity, equality and inclusion and the main issues raised were the importance of accessibility through the town (e.g. access, parking, pavements, toilets); dial-a-ride,

consideration of lower income households, the need for affordable/social housing and consideration of local businesses.

### **Response and respondent characteristics**

- 192 survey responses.
- 92.2% responded to the survey as members of the public, 3.6 as representatives of local businesses (the remainder did not say).
- 82.8% of the survey respondents live within or around Oswestry (3.1% were visitors, 6.3% work in the area and the remainder responded for other reasons or did not say).
- 51% female, 40% male, 1% other and remainder no response or preferred not to say.
- At least one response across all age groups but most respondents were aged 35 to 74. The age group with the greatest response was 65 to 74-year olds.



### Survey respondents by age groups

- 15.6% of respondents have a long-standing illness or disability that limits their mobility in some way and 7.3% are carers. It was helpful to have representation of people with limited mobility and carers within the respondent sample. Some raised important and helpful access issues. Top themes under access were; narrow or dangerous pavements, the importance of good access for wheelchairs/ scooters, and the need for suitable public transport.
- The survey sample provided a mix of people with different daily lifestyles and employment status. 35.9% were retired, 34.4% working full time, 11.5% working part time, 7.8% self-employed and 1.0% unemployed. Employment status can heavily influence the way people access town centre facilities, services, and other opportunities such as leisure, so this representation across groups is helpful.
- Although 85.9% of survey respondents are of a White British/Irish/Welsh background, it was good to see some representation of other groups within the results.
- The range of engagement methods provided through the project should enable an inclusive approach, but consideration of different needs will remain important as the work progresses. The importance and value of inclusivity and diversity was a theme raised within comments in some of the earlier phases of community engagement.
- Survey respondents were asked for any comments on diversity, equality and inclusion and the main issues raised were the importance of accessibility

through the town (e.g. access, parking, pavements, toilets); dial-a-ride, consideration of lower income households, the need for affordable/social housing and consideration of local businesses.

Although there was a low response from age groups 13-15 and 16-24, specific activities were held as part of the consultation to engage with younger people through holding events and specific workshops at the Marches School and Oswestry School involving school and college pupils. The responses received from these sessions have been fed into the overall comments.

The engagement that has taken place over the last few years has led to the development of the Future Oswestry Plan but this does not mean the end of engagement. There will be more opportunities for people to have their say and influence developments as the vision is followed, plans are implemented and the Big Ideas move forward.

### Initial equality impact assessment by grouping (Initial health impact assessment is included below)

Please rate the impact that you perceive the service change is likely to have on a group, through stating this in the relevant column.

Please state if it is anticipated to be neutral (no impact) and add any extra notes that you think might be helpful for readers.

Protected Characteristic groupings and other groupings in Shropshire	High negative impact Part Two ESIIA required	High positive impact Part One ESIIA required	Medium positive or negative impact Part One ESIIA required	Low positive, negative, or neutral impact (please specify) Part One ESIIA required
<u>Age</u> (please include children, young people, young people leaving care, people of working age, older people. Some people may belong to more than one group e.g., a child or young person for whom there are safeguarding concerns e.g., an older person with disability)			✓	
Disability (please include mental health conditions and syndromes; hidden disabilities including autism and Crohn's disease; physical and sensory disabilities or impairments; learning disabilities; Multiple Sclerosis; cancer; and HIV)			✓	
Gender re-assignment (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				✓
Marriage and Civil Partnership (please include associated aspects: caring responsibility,				$\checkmark$

potential for bullying and harassment)			
Pregnancy and Maternity (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)		$\checkmark$	
Race (please include ethnicity, nationality, culture, language, Gypsy, Traveller)			$\checkmark$
Religion and belief (please include Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Nonconformists; Rastafarianism; Shinto, Sikhism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, and any others)			✓
Sex (this can also be viewed as relating to gender. Please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)		$\checkmark$	
Sexual Orientation (please include associated aspects: safety; caring responsibility; potential for bullying and harassment)			✓
Other: Social Inclusion (please include families and friends with caring responsibilities; households in poverty; people for whom there are safeguarding concerns; people you consider to be vulnerable; people with health inequalities; refugees and asylum seekers; rural communities; veterans and serving members of the armed forces and their families)		✓	

Initial health and wellbeing impact assessment by category Please rate the impact that you perceive the service change is likely to have with regard to health and wellbeing, through stating this in the relevant column. Please state if it is anticipated to be neutral (no impact) and add any extra notes that you think might be helpful for readers.

Health and wellbeing: individuals and communities in Shropshire	High negative impact Part Two HIA required	High positive impact	Medium positive or negative impact	Low positive negative or neutral impact (please specify)
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Will the proposal have a direct impact on an individual's health, mental health and wellbeing? For example, would it cause ill health, affecting social inclusion, independence and participation?		Priorities identified through the consultation will be brought forward through the Delivery Plan – these will include projects to make the town a healthier and more sustainable town	
Will the proposal indirectly impact an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing? For example, will it affect their ability to be physically active, choose healthy food, reduce drinking and smoking?			✓
Will the policy have a direct impact on the community - social, economic and environmental living conditions that would impact health? For example, would it affect housing, transport, child development, education, employment opportunities, availability of green space or climate change mitigation?		Priorities identified through the consultation will be brought forward through the Delivery Plan – these will include projects to make the town a healthier and more sustainable town	
Will there be a likely change in <i>demand</i> for or access to health and social care services? For example: Primary Care, Hospital Care, Community Services, Mental Health, Local Authority services including Social Services?			✓

### Identification of likely impact of the service change in terms of other considerations including climate change and economic or societal impacts

Whilst this Plan is economically focused there are considered to be many benefits likely to accrue in terms of equality, diversity and social inclusion associated with a resilient economy such as increased employment opportunity, provision of housing, infrastructure benefits, facilities and utilities, climate change considerations and well-being improvements which is a key driver of the Plan.

There are several key goals of the Future Oswestry Plan that include planning for future sustainable growth, opening up the housing market within the town increasing choice and improving affordability and the desire to build strong physical and virtual networks connecting education, healthcare, business start-ups, new industries, and provision across the town to improve mobility and to form new alliances.

Detail directly relating to both climate change and health and well-being consideration is provided within the Future Oswestry Plan vision and is summarised below:

In the town centre, improvements to movement will be considered, revitalising the relationship with the town's cultural and heritage offer, creating new places that are connected by a well-designed, accessible, and active streets for all users. Activities supporting improvements to make Oswestry a healthier and more sustainable place to live, will positively influence people's mental and physical wellbeing, as well as increasing land values, improving air quality and responding to the climate emergency.

Overall, new projects, development and infrastructure must meet "the Oswestry Test" – does it support our vision? Does it strengthen the identity of Oswestry? Is it right for that part of town, and most importantly, does it make life better for people? Ensuring these principles and goals are in place help mitigate negative impact of the plan and use it to bolster more positive impacts available through its implementation.

The feedback received and the representation of respondents will be used to develop appropriate engagement approaches to discuss proposed activities and test proposals.

The Future Oswestry Group will be supported by the Community Representatives to consider ways to foster good relations and promote social inclusion in the further development of project ideas, resulting from the adoption of the Master Plan.