

# Visual Impact Provision (VIP) Snowdonia Project Welsh Language Statement

March 2020





# **Visual Impact Provision (VIP)**

## **Snowdonia Project**

## **Welsh Language Statement**

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## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Welsh Language Statement has been prepared in support of requirements set out in both local and national Welsh planning policy and relates to the Visual Impact Provision (VIP) Snowdonia project, referred to hereon as the Proposed Project.
- 1.1.2 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (version 10)<sup>1</sup> describes the Welsh language as *'part of the social and cultural fabric and its future well-being will depend upon a wide range of factors, particularly education, demographic change, community activities and a sound economic base to maintain thriving sustainable communities and places'*.
- 1.1.3 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20<sup>2</sup> supports the PPW and states that the Welsh language is *'part of the social and cultural fabric of Wales. It is spoken by 19% of the population, and many others have some knowledge of the language or are in the process of learning it. There are substantial variations between the proportions of Welsh speakers in different communities, ranging from less than 8% in Blaenau Gwent to more than 85% in some parts of Gwynedd'*.
- 1.1.4 Local Planning Authorities (LPA) should consider PPW and TAN 20 in their local development plans and when determining subsequent planning applications.
- 1.1.5 The Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan (JLDP)<sup>3</sup> further emphasises the importance of considering the potential impacts of development on the Welsh language, whilst also considering the local community.
- 1.1.6 This Welsh Language Statement has been produced to demonstrate how the Proposed Project meets both local and national policy.
- 1.1.7 The structure of this Welsh Language Statement is as follows:
- 1.2 Applicable Policy
    - 1.2.1 Planning Wales Act (2015)
    - 1.2.5 Planning Policy Wales (Version 10)
    - 1.2.9 Technical Advice Note 20
    - 1.2.14 Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan and Strategic Policy (PS 1)
    - 1.2.17 Supplementary Planning Guidance – Maintaining and Creating Distinctive Sustainable Communities
  - 1.3 Proposed Project description
  - 1.4 Stakeholder Engagement
  - 1.5 Consultation
  - 1.6 Community and the Local Area
    - 1.6.4 Population, household and housing profile
    - 1.6.9 Local facilities and services
  - 1.7 Key Considerations

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<sup>1</sup> Welsh Government (2018), Planning Policy Wales. Available at:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-12/planning-policy-wales-edition-10.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Welsh Government (2017), Technical Advice Note 20 – Planning and the Welsh Language. Available at:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan20-welsh-language.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Gwynedd Council (2017), Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan. Available at:

<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Documents---Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Anglesey-and-Gwynedd-Joint-Local-Development-Plan-Written-Statement.pdf>

- 1.8 Conclusion

## 1.2 Applicable Policy

### *Planning Wales Act (2015)*

- 1.2.1 The Planning Wales Act (2015) sets out provisions that form a framework for the Welsh planning system, which is plan-led. Combined with the planning system it helps support a range of aspirations, from access to quality homes, jobs and relevant to this Welsh Language Statement *'supports the use of the Welsh language'*.
- 1.2.2 The Act also reaffirms the Welsh government commitment to implementing a plan-led system and addresses any issues or areas for improvement at a strategic level by implementing the National Development Framework (NDF)<sup>4</sup>. The NDF is currently under consultation and will bring together existing policies including PPW and TANs to form the basis for decision-making. The NDF will set out a high level 20-year plan for Wales (up to 2040) and sets out the broader priorities at a national level, the plan can then be used by LPAs to form Local Development Plans (LDP).
- 1.2.3 Once implemented the NDF will *'concentrate on development and land use issues of national significance which the planning system is able to influence and deliver'*, as described by the Planning Wales Act explanatory memorandum<sup>5</sup>. As part of the draft NDF (2019) an integrated sustainability appraisal<sup>6</sup> has been produced, one of the objectives within is *'encourage the protection and the promotion of the Welsh language'*.
- 1.2.4 As the NDF and the interim sustainability appraisal is still under consultation, the following sections address the existing policy that has influenced the formation of the Gwynedd JLDP, of which policies within are applicable to the Proposed Project. However, it is noted that the emerging NDF demonstrates the continued focus by the Welsh government on the importance of the use of the Welsh language.

### *Planning Policy Wales (Version 10)*

- 1.2.5 The planning system in Wales is plan-led meaning that adopted plans and the policies within are used to inform decision-making with regard to the determination of a planning application. Each LPA must develop a Local Development Plan (LDP) that is focused on local issues and objectives. One of the issues that needs to be considered is the potential impact of development on the use of the Welsh language.
- 1.2.6 PPW states *'Planning authorities must consider the likely effects of their development plans on the use of the Welsh language as part of the Sustainability Appraisal'*.
- 1.2.7 *'Considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account by decision makers so far as they are material to applications for planning permission'*.

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<sup>4</sup> Welsh Government Welsh Government (2019), Consultation Document, National Development Framework. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2019-08/Consultation%20document.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Welsh Government (2015), Planning Wales Act 2015. Explanatory Memorandum, Incorporating the Regulatory Impact Assessment and Explanatory Notes. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/planning-wales-act-2015-explanatory-memorandum.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Arcadis (2018), Integrated Sustainability Appraisal of the National Development Framework. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-04/180430-interim-isa-report.pdf>

1.2.8 *'If required, language impact assessments may be carried out in respect of large developments not allocated in a development plan which are proposed in areas of particular sensitivity or importance for the language'.*

*Technical Advice Note 20*

1.2.9 TAN 20 provides guidance on how the Welsh language should be considered within the planning system and sets out the legislation that influences LDPs.

1.2.10 The advice refers to The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, with one of the well-being goals being *'a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'*. As such LDPs are encouraged to factor the Welsh language objectives and priorities. To achieve these objectives, it is important to promote the use of the Welsh language and protect it, and therefore TAN 20 recommends that LPAs identify potential mitigation measures to guide developers when preparing planning applications. Subsequently the Welsh language will be considered from early stages of the planning process and any potential issues adequately addressed.

1.2.11 A key stakeholder for inclusion of the Welsh language in the planning system is the Welsh Language Commissioner. The Commissioner is a consultee for review of the LDP and helps formulate policies around the use of the Welsh language. The Commissioner may also support the planning authority on defining areas of language sensitivity or significance.

1.2.12 The advice note provides further detail on the Welsh language weighting in determination and states that *'In determining individual planning applications and appeals, considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account so far as they are material. Section 70(2) TCPA does not give any additional weight to the Welsh language above any other material consideration and decisions on all applications for planning permission must be based on planning grounds only and be reasonable'*.

1.2.13 It goes on to state that: *'Planning applications should not routinely be subject to Welsh language impact assessment, as this would duplicate the SA and LDP site selection processes' the exception to this is windfall sites, particularly where the development is large scale, large scale being 'Large development would normally be defined as 10 or more residential dwellings or developments over 1,000 sq.metres or 1 hectare, but LPAs may set locally-appropriate thresholds'*.

*Anglesey and Gwynedd Council Joint Local Development Plan*

1.2.14 The Anglesey and Gwynedd JLDP reiterates the need for consideration of the Welsh language in development and outlines the following as a strategic objective *'safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language and culture and promote its use as an essential part of community life'*. It demonstrates that high level policy within PPW and TAN 20 have been considered by the LPA at a local level and recognises the importance of Welsh language to the culture of Wales.

1.2.15 In order to achieve the above strategic objective, policy PS 1 places a requirement on the developer to produce a Welsh Language Statement where a development meets certain thresholds.

1.2.16 The Proposed Project exceeds the thresholds within PS 1 as it is *'retail, industrial or commercial development employing more than 50 employees and/or with an area of 1,000 sq. m. or more'*.

### *Supplementary Planning Guidance*

1.2.17 The Supplementary Planning Guidance (2019)<sup>7</sup>, paragraph 18 states that either a Welsh Language Statement or a Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) is required for development exceeding thresholds in PS 1. The main difference between the statement and the assessment is that the WLIA is carried out when '*the proposed development is on an unexpected windfall site for large-scale housing development or the development of large scale employment which would see a significant flow of workforce*'. As the Proposed Project is neither a housing development or one that would require large scale employment, a WLIA is not required. This Welsh Language Statement has been prepared in accordance with the methodology outlined in Appendix 7 of the SPG, this methodology has been designed to consider the different types of impact on the use of Welsh language e.g. employment, housing, population and quality of life. In some instances, the key consideration questions are not applicable to the Proposed Project, an explanation is provided as to why such questions are not addressed further.

## **1.3 The Proposed Project**

1.3.1 National Grid's Visual Impact Provision (VIP) project makes use of part of a £500 million provision by Ofgem to mitigate the visual impact of existing electricity transmission infrastructure in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks in England and Wales.

1.3.2 The provision was made available following extensive willingness to pay research by National Grid, conducted on behalf of the energy regulator, Ofgem. This revealed that electricity consumers would be prepared to fund work to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and environmental heritage within our most protected landscapes.

1.3.3 The Proposed Project represents a major opportunity to mitigate the visual impact of existing electricity infrastructure at Snowdonia National Park near Minffordd. Further details on the works proposed can be found in the Design and Access Statement (DAS)<sup>8</sup>. In summary the main works comprise:

- A tunnel with a shaft and Tunnel Head Houses (THH) with a permanent access road at either end of the tunnel. Electrical infrastructure to be laid within tunnel;
- Removal of a section of existing overhead line and ten pylons (VIP Subsection), including
- Partial removal of the foundations of the previously dismantled pylon 4ZC030 within the Dwyrdd Estuary;
- An underground buried cable (approximately 100m in length) to connect into the existing Garth Sealing End Compound (SEC) from the tunnel head house on the western side of the Dwyrdd Estuary;
- Reconfiguration of equipment at the existing Garth SEC;

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<sup>7</sup> Gwynedd Council (2019) Supplementary Planning Guidance: Maintaining and Creating Distinctive and Sustainable Communities. Available at: <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Documents---Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/2019/Maintaining-and-Creating-Distinctive-and-Sustainable-Communities-July-2019.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> National Grid (2020), Design and Access Statement (Environmental Appraisal Report).

- Construction of a new SEC adjacent to the proposed tunnel head house on the eastern side of the Dwyryd Estuary;
- Removal and replacement (at adjacent location) of one pylon (4ZC027) adjacent to the proposed new SEC on the eastern side of the Dwyryd Estuary;
- Temporary access routes (with potential highways improvements) and construction compounds/ laydown areas to facilitate construction activities; and Minor works on pylons 4ZC026 to 4ZC023 to ensure that the overhead line is made safe for conductor and pylon removal in the VIP Subsection.

1.3.4 Plans showing the location of the Proposed Project can also be found appended to the DAS.

## **1.4 Stakeholder Engagement**

1.4.1 Throughout the SPG emphasis is placed on the need for engagement with key stakeholders including the local community. Throughout the Proposed Project a number of key stakeholders have been involved to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the Welsh language.

1.4.2 The Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) was established in April 2014 and comprises an independent group of stakeholder organisations, chaired by environmentalist, Chris Baines and comprising senior representation from 15 English and Welsh stakeholder bodies namely: Cadw, the Campaign for National Parks, Campaign to Protect Rural England, The Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales, Historic England, the Landscape Institute, the National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), National Parks England, National Parks Wales, the National Trust, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, The Ramblers, Visit England and Visit Wales. Welsh Language interpreters are present at the SAG to ensure that stakeholders are able to speak in their language of choice.

1.4.3 To guide the project at a local level, an independent Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) was established in 2015. Its membership includes representatives from Gwynedd Council, Local Ward Councillors, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, Gwynedd Council Planning Service, National Trust, and National Resource Wales.

1.4.4 SRG meetings took place regularly throughout the project life and will continue to do so as the Proposed Project moves forward. All communications and presentations have been provided in Welsh and simultaneous translation has been available, so members can take part in the meeting through the language of their choice.

## **1.5 Consultation**

1.5.1 Since launching the Proposed Project in 2014 local communities have been consulted with in several ways, including a formal Pre-Application Consultation in 2019-2020. and comprised of the following:

- Stakeholder Reference Group meetings;
- Drop-in events for the local community to attend;
- Direct consultation;
- Third party channels;
- Media channels; and
- Snowdonia VIP website;

- Printed materials, including newsletters;
- Project help line.

1.5.2 During the consultation, information has been produced both in Welsh and English, including information panels, newsletters and letters. A Welsh speaker has been and will continue to be available to engage at all consultation events and via the project help line. All public correspondence, including emails and letters have been produced in both languages, with Welsh appearing first. Simultaneous translation has been made available where requested for meetings. Consultation with local people and stakeholders will continue to take place in both languages throughout the project lifecycle.

## **1.6 Community and the Local Area**

1.6.1 This section comprises data collated for the appraisal of socio-economics and tourism (as part of the Environmental Appraisal Report (EAR)), this data is relevant to this Welsh language statement as it was collated for the purpose of better understanding the potential impacts of the Proposed Project on tourism, recreation, community and employment, all of which are topics for consideration as recommended by the SPG. Reference is also made to other sections of the EAR where collated information is relevant to the Welsh language e.g. transport.

1.6.2 Additional data specific to the Welsh language has also been collated. All links to relevant reports and data are provided within footnotes throughout this report.

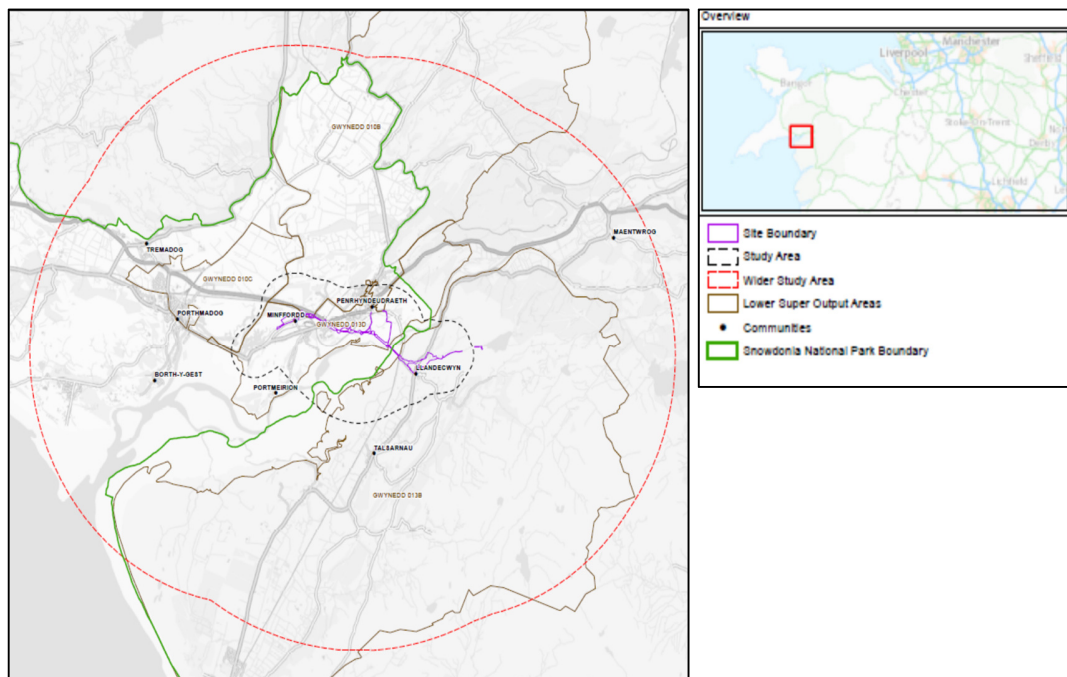
1.6.3 As part of the Socio-Economics and Tourism appraisal<sup>9</sup> a Study Area was defined (Area of Search for Permanent and Temporary works plus a 500m buffer), this comprises four Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), one of which was found to not have any residential population within the defined Study Area, therefore is excluded from the data collation. The three LSOAs can be found in Figure 1 below and all lie within the Gwynedd ward.

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<sup>9</sup> National grid (2019), Socio-Economics and Tourism (Environmental Appraisal Report).



## Study Area (Figure 1)



### Population

- 1.6.4 According to mid-year population estimates, the population of Gwynedd was approximately 124,200 in 2018<sup>10</sup>. In the three LSOAs identified within the Study Area (as described further in figure 13.1), the mid-year 2018 population was around 4,400<sup>11</sup>, and population density of 1.0 person per hectare across the LSOAs reflects the rural nature of the landscape<sup>12</sup>. The population density in Wales is 1.5 persons per hectare.
- 1.6.5 The three LSOAs that are within the Study Area have relatively low deprivation, as determined by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (Welsh Government, 2014), falling within the 6th and 7th decile of multiple deprivations for all LSOAs in Wales in 2014 (with the 1st decile being most deprived and the 10th decile being least deprived).
- 1.6.6 There are two distinct communities residing within the Study Area; Penrhyndeudraeth and Minffordd. The 2011 census states that the population of Penrhyndeudraeth Parish (which includes Minffordd and Portmeirion) was 2,150.

<sup>10</sup> ONS (2019). Mid-year Population Estimates. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/lowersuperoutputareamidyearpopulationestimates>

<sup>11</sup> ONS (2019). Mid-year Population Estimates. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/lowersuperoutputareamidyearpopulationestimates>

<sup>12</sup> Nomis, (2013). QS102EW – Population density. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/query/construct/summary.asp?mode=construct&version=0&dataset=143>

### *Welsh Speakers*

- 1.6.7 The 2011 Census states that there were 77,000 people across the Gwynedd ward that could speak Welsh, with 40,789 not able to speak Welsh (65.4% Welsh language speakers). The previous Census data (2001) states that 77,800 people across the Gwynedd ward could speak Welsh. It is noted that despite a population increase between 2001 and 2011, there has been a slight reduction in the use of the Welsh language, however it is also noted that the percentage of Welsh speakers is still relatively high, particularly when comparing with other areas e.g. Swansea comprises 11% Welsh speakers, according to census data.
- 1.6.8 While percentages have no direct impact in the level of respect paid to the Welsh language, National Grid was especially conscious that Welsh is the predominant language in the region.

### *Local Facilities and Services*

- 1.6.9 The community (Penrhyndeudraeth Parish) has several facilities, including a primary school, train station, post office, Neuadd Goffa and library.
- 1.6.10 Minffordd is a much smaller residential area, with its main public key facilities being Minffordd Train Station and a number of holiday rentals, including the Ffestiniog Railway Hostel. There are several commercial businesses within the Study Area, with the greatest concentration of businesses within Penrhyndeudraeth. These comprise of independent businesses, shops, café's, public houses, hotels and guest houses, a pharmacy and a doctor's surgery.
- 1.6.11 With regards to public transport, there are a number of train and bus routes that pass through the area, various forms of public transport within the local community including bus routes Services 1, T2 1B and S97 and local train services connecting to Bangor, are available between Pwllhelli and Aberystwyth and Birmingham. It is not anticipated that the Proposed Project would adversely impact the availability or routes of the public transport. A more detailed assessment on potential effects to public transport has been undertaken as part of the EAR (Traffic and Transport)<sup>13</sup>.
- 1.6.12 Signage, including route information and project information boards, relating to the Proposed Project will be displayed in both Welsh and English, with the former taking priority on all signage. This will be agreed with the relevant Highway Authority. In prioritising Welsh on signage National Grid ensures that signage follows that of the local Highways Authority and minimises potential confusion. With regard to the Proposed Project the design and location of route information signs and project information boards would be agreed with the relevant Highway Authority prior to installation. Signs would be bi-lingual, with messages written in Welsh above English on the sign face.
- 1.6.13 Bi-lingual signs would also be produced for Public Rights of Way (PRoW) where routes are impacted, including details of alternative routes. All signage will have messages written in Welsh above English on the sign face.
- 1.6.14 The above measures have been implemented to reflect requirements set out in the JLDP to protect and encourage the Welsh language, this requirement is also reflected

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<sup>13</sup> National Grid (2019), Traffic and Transport (Environmental Appraisal Report).

in the Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP)<sup>14</sup> where it refers to ‘*The need for good road links to / from the trunk road network into the rural areas to help retain the viability of local businesses and support the Welsh language and culture*’.

## 1.7 Key Considerations

1.7.1 The Table below sets out the key considerations as provided by the SPG (Appendix 7) and answers each question with a response relating to the Proposed Project and the measures undertaken to protect and enhance the use of the Welsh Language. A rating is then assigned and discussed overall in the conclusion.

	Response	Rating
<b>Population</b>		
How will the development ensure opportunities for local people to stay in their communities? Is it likely that the development will attract people to the community? If there is, how many are expected? How many and what percentage are likely to be Welsh speakers?	<p>The core objective of the Proposed Project is to mitigate the visual impact of the existing electricity infrastructure, particularly for users of the Wales Coast Path regional trail, National Cycle Route 8, local rights of way and Open Access Land.</p> <p>Improving the visual amenity in these local areas would potentially encourage people to stay within their communities and attract people outside of the immediate community and make use of the aforementioned walks/cycling routes. Whilst these routes may attract visitors who are non-Welsh speakers it may also attract Welsh speakers from neighboring communities.</p>	Neutral
Is there a likelihood that local people will migrate from the community as a result of the development?	<p>The Proposed Project, once operational would mitigate the existing visual impacts and potentially encourage the community to make use of the surrounding area for recreation e.g. cycling.</p> <p>Based on feedback from local people, they feel that improved views across the Dwyryd Estuary will make the area more appealing to tourists and those looking to enjoy the walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>National Grid will continue to liaise with the local community to capture and discuss any concerns raised, including any related to the use of the Welsh language.</p>	Neutral
Balance between Welsh speakers (including learners) and individuals that do not have any Welsh language skills	Not applicable.	NA

<sup>14</sup> Flintshire County Council (2015), North Wales Joint Local Transport Plan  
<https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Planning/LDP-evidence-base/Local/North-Wales-Joint-Local-Transport-Plan-2015.pdf>

<p>Is the development likely to lead to a change in the age structure within the population: more or less children, young people, middle-age people, elderly?</p>	<p>No – the employment associated with the Proposed Project will only be during construction, therefore is unlikely to result in any permanent changes to the age structure.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Is the change likely to be a permanent one or a temporary one?</p>	<p>The change to the infrastructure is permanent but it does not require permanent employment.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p><b>Quality of Life</b> (some questions have been omitted e.g. local school capacity.) The Proposed Project is the provision of electricity infrastructure and would not impact on local school capacity.</p>		
<p>Will the development increase the demand on local facilities and services?</p>	<p>Some of the construction workers will be approved contractors that are specialists likely to be located throughout the UK.</p>	<p>Positive</p>
<p>The extent to which the development will have a positive or negative impact on existing facilities or services?</p>	<p>Therefore, there may be some requirement for contractors to stay locally at hotels and accommodation etc.</p> <p>During construction, National Grid workers / Contractors travelling to site may result in an increased demand on the use of public transport, as they will be encouraged to make use of 'greener' travel routes. In addition to an increase in public travel it is likely that National Grid construction workers will need to access local amenities, such as café's and shops during the construction phase.</p> <p>In addition to the above, it is current understanding that a car-share scheme / mini-bus will be implemented to reduce impact on the local road network / transport.</p> <p>It should be noted that the above is only temporary and not expected to have an adverse impact on use of the Welsh language in the local community. It is considered that this is a positive impact due to supporting Welsh speaking business owners.</p>	
<p>To what degree will the development create new opportunities to promote the Welsh language in local facilities and services such as halls, shops, and so on?</p>	<p>While some works require specialist staff that are likely to travel from other parts of the UK, however some of the activities e.g. fencing and site security may be sourced locally, potentially increasing the opportunity for Welsh speakers to stay within the local community and continue to use the Welsh language.</p>	<p>Positive</p>

	Measures will be in place to ensure workers are fully understanding of the importance the Welsh language plays in the local community. Toolbox talks will be given on the importance of Welsh and a useful phrase guide is being considered.	
<b>New Housing – omitted as not applicable to the Proposed Project</b>		
<b>Employment</b>		
How will the development contribute to current employment opportunities in the area, e.g. will it foster economic variability in the local area or not?	Some National Grid staff / Contractors will be required to travel to the Proposed Project from the rest of the UK, these individuals would make use of local accommodation, local food, transport etc. and therefore increase spends within the local community. While not a long-term benefit this will take place over the life of construction.	Positive (short-term benefit)
Number of full and/ or part time jobs	No permanent employment is required for the operation of the Proposed Project. However, there may be some temporary work to support construction, such as security, office administration and other businesses such as ground works, fencing etc.	Positive (short-term benefit)
Skills which are necessary for the business or organisation and how that compares with the labour skills of local people (within the travel to work area)	As previously described. A combination of skilled workers from outside of the community will be used in addition to local labour.	Positive (short-term benefit)
Salaries that will be offered and how that compares with average wages in the area	NA	NA
The labour skills of local people (within the travel to work area) and how likely it is according to the above assessment the posts will be filled from among the local population	As previously described. Posts will be filled dependent upon the skills required.	Neutral
Is it likely that you will need to search outside the local area for employees, e.g. to obtain specialist skills	As previously described.	Neutral
What type of Welsh language skills are essential and desirable for the jobs that will be created by the development? These will need to be defined as part of the development's Welsh language Plan (voluntary or statutory).	No permanent employment is created as part of the Proposed Project. Only infrequent maintenance activities will be undertaken by existing National Grid staff, who would be based locally and therefore are likely to speak Welsh.	Neutral
Welsh Language skills that will be necessary for the workers and their dependents to integrate	No permanent employment is created as part of the Proposed Project. Only infrequent maintenance activities will be	Neutral

into the local community	undertaken by existing National Grid staff who are based in the area and therefore are likely to speak Welsh.	
The possible cumulative impact that the development could have, taking account of any other relevant recent development in the local area	No permanent employment is required and therefore the Proposed Project would not result in any cumulative impact on employment.	NA

## 1.8 Conclusion / Mitigation

- 1.8.1 As described above the Welsh Language Statement considers the potential impact of the Proposed Project on the use of the Welsh language within the local community. The Key Considerations scored either as Positive or Neutral and therefore it is not anticipated that the Proposed Project would have any adverse impact on the use of the Welsh language in Gwynedd.
- 1.8.2 Although no adverse impact is anticipated, as previously described measures are in place to ensure that the use of the Welsh language is preserved such as bi-lingual signage (for both road users and PRow), the use of local contractors for certain activities where feasible e.g. site security during construction and the use of tool box talks to communicate the importance and use of the Welsh language for contractors who cannot speak Welsh.
- 1.8.3 Continued consultation will take place making available information in Welsh where appropriate including Welsh speakers at any major events/presentations. This will capture any concerns that the local community have with regard to the use of the Welsh language and objectives within national and local policy met. Consultation materials will be available in Welsh as required.
- 1.8.4 It is National Grid's understanding that this Welsh Language Statement has sufficiently met the requirements of the local and national policy and has implemented measures to ensure that the Welsh language is protected and enhanced as a result of the Proposed Project.