Title: Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill

WLIA Reference No (completed by WLU):

Name of person completing form: Beverley Morgan

Date: May 2018

Policy lead: Chris Gittins

Contact details: MUPbill@gov.wales

Programme/Project Type

- Policy
- Legislation
- Grant
- Business change
- Infrastructure
- Construction, Capital
- ICT
- Other (Please specify below)
- Project or programme
- Research, evaluation
- Services
- Contracts, tenders

Costs: How much is the projected whole life cost for the programme/project?
If below £25k, then a full WLIA is not always required (see guidance).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Under £25k</th>
<th>£25k - £49k</th>
<th>£50 - £249k</th>
<th>£250K - £1m</th>
<th>Over £1m</th>
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Of the above, please provide details if there are any identified costs directly associated with the Welsh language?

The costs of this proposal to local authorities and others are contained within Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment for the Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill (the Bill).

There are anticipated to be very few costs directly associated with the Welsh language. Any additional costs, such as bilingual signage, publicity and guidance, are likely to be incorporated into overall operational costs and not easily separately identifiable.

How long is the programme/project expected to run?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Up to 1 yr</th>
<th>Up to 2yrs</th>
<th>Up to 5yrs</th>
<th>Up to 10yrs</th>
<th>More than 10 yrs</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
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Section 22 of the Bill provides that the minimum pricing provisions will be repealed after a period of six years from their commencement, unless the Welsh Ministers (subject to the agreement of the National Assembly) provide by regulations that they are to continue.

Key milestone dates for the programme / project:

15 July 2015 – 11 December 2015: Bilingual consultation on the draft Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill, including a separate version for children and young people. Alongside the draft Bill, a bilingual Children’s Rights Impact Assessment and an Equalities Impact Assessment were also published. A summary of these consultation responses was published bilingually on the Welsh Government website.

Key milestones in relation to the Bill include the following:

Stakeholder engagement: This will continue throughout the legislative process and ahead of implementation, should the Bill be passed by the Assembly.

Introduction of the Bill to the Assembly: 23 October 2017.

Stage 1 Plenary Debate: The General Principles Debate took place 13 March 2018, when Assembly Members agreed the General Principles of the Bill.

Stage 2 proceedings took place on 3 May.

STAGE 1: PLANNING

What are the aims and objectives of the policy?
What are the desired outcomes/ what constitutes ‘success’?

The ultimate objective of the Bill is to tackle alcohol-related harm, by reducing alcohol consumption in hazardous and harmful drinkers. The Bill is targeted at protecting the health of hazardous and harmful drinkers, who tend to consume greater amounts of low-cost and high-alcohol content products.

The policy rationale for introducing a minimum price for alcohol is well developed. The Public Health White Paper Listening to you: Your health matters, which was published on 2 April 2014, brought together a number of legislative proposals to address specific public health concerns through legislation. The White Paper included a proposal to introduce a minimum unit price for alcohol (MUP). This attracted high levels of interest during the consultation period, both from inside and outside Wales. A total of 713 responses were received and a consultation summary report was published in November 2014. The responses included 145 relating to MUP, the vast majority of those were in favour of legislatively to introduce an MUP for alcohol.
The Welsh Government subsequently also consulted on a draft Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill in July 2015. A majority of stakeholders and organisations who responded to the consultation were broadly supportive of introducing a minimum price for alcohol. A total of 194 consultation responses were received in 2015; 68% of respondents were in favour of introducing a minimum price for alcohol in Wales. A summary of the 2015 consultation responses can be found on the Welsh Government website:


The Bill will introduce a minimum price for alcohol supplied in Wales to a person in Wales and establish a local authority-led enforcement regime to ensure alcohol is not sold below that price.

The Bill seeks to provide for the introduction of a minimum price for the supply of alcohol in Wales, calculated according to the MUP, the percentage strength of the alcohol and its volume. The exact MUP for these purposes will be specified by Welsh Ministers in regulations, should the Bill be passed by the Assembly. The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services has given a commitment to consult on the proposed level of the MUP the Welsh Ministers are minded to specify.

The proposals in the Bill are consistent with the prudent healthcare preventative approach to take action where there is the potential to reduce or avoid long-term societal and higher financial costs associated with avoidable ill health.

**What policy options have been considered and what impacts will there be if the policy is not implemented?**

The policy options are set out in detail in the Regulatory Impact Assessment and the Explanatory Memorandum. The EM and RIA also provide strong evidence in support of the anticipated benefits of this proposed legislation and its focus on targeting hazardous and harmful drinkers and reducing the excessive consumption of alcohol, including amongst young drinkers, in order to better protect individuals, families and communities.

**Does the programme demonstrate a clear link with the Welsh Government’s strategy for the Welsh language?**

The Welsh Government published its *Cymraeg 2050 – A million Welsh speakers* strategy for the Welsh language which aims to increase the number of people who speak and use the language. The provision of bi-lingual services is a key priority and is supported by the Welsh Language Standards.

In relation to health, the strategic framework “More than just words…” aims to strengthen Welsh language services in health and social care services.¹

The Bill primarily relates to a discrete public health issue – it has the targeted aim of

reducing the hazardous and harmful consumption of alcohol via the introduction of a minimum price for alcohol, rather than the provision and accessibility of health services generally. As such, it is not expected that this legislation will have a significant impact on the Welsh language. However, pricing and the production of bilingual signage, guidance and other documentation will need to be amended and / or drafted, as part of the routine nature of commercial retail businesses. These matters have been, and continue to be discussed with the retail industry.

The Welsh Government considers that these costs can be consumed within the routine pricing and administration changes that are normally incurred as a result of the bilingual business of the retail sector. This will support the aims of Cymraeg 2050 – a million Welsh speakers and the Welsh Language Standards by strengthening the position of the Welsh language within the community, while also contributing towards community health benefits.

It is considered that the Bill will also support the strategy’s aim to increase opportunities for people to use Welsh in the workplace – documentation, guidance, training, publicity and communications associated with the introduction, implementation and enforcement of the Bill will be available bilingually.

What are the impacts/ effects (both positive and/or adverse) on the Welsh language you have identified at the initial planning stage i.e. Welsh speakers, Welsh language communities, Welsh medium education, Welsh learners, services available in Welsh?

Current impacts identified are:

- The need to ensure guidance and relevant training is provided bilingually.
- The need for bilingual publicity and communications material regarding the introduction, implementation and enforcement of the legislation.

All Welsh Government communications with the public, local authorities, retailers and the alcohol industry (as well as other key stakeholders) regarding the Bill will be bilingual, in line with the Welsh Government’s Welsh Language Standards.

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

The main stakeholders include the alcohol industry in general, retailers, local authorities, community-based organisations, services and treatment providers for substance misuse, Children in Wales, the Children’s Commissioner, the Older People’s Commissioner, Trading Standards, youth forums and members of the public.

As this proposal to introduce legislation on minimum pricing does not relate to a new public service (or a change to an existing service), it may not attract particular and specific interest from Welsh language interest groups.
All Welsh Government guidance, training and publicity materials will be published bilingually. The Welsh Government will liaise with retailers, the alcohol industry, local authorities, the Welsh Heads of Trading Standards and other key stakeholders (including services and treatment providers), regarding the development of these materials. Consideration will be given to the Welsh language on an ongoing basis.

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

N/A – identified impacts are outlined within this assessment template.

What actions/ further work has been identified at the initial planning stage?
e.g. data requirements, need for peer review, external engagement with Welsh speaking groups, identify stakeholders or consultation list, need to contact Welsh Language Unit for advice)?

The initial Public Health White Paper consultation and its responses were published bilingually. The subsequent draft Bill consultation was published bilingually to ensure that language needs and requirements were considered appropriately.

There will be an ongoing need to liaise with key stakeholders throughout the development of this legislation through the medium of Welsh.

Key associated documentation for the Bill is being published bilingually. This includes the Explanatory Memorandum, the Regulatory Impact Assessment and the Welsh Language Impact Assessment.
**STAGE 2: IDENTIFYING AND ASSESSING IMPACTS**

**Impact Assessment Summary**

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

**Positive effects/impacts:**

Delivering information in preferred languages will ensure key stakeholders have the opportunity to fully understand the implications of the Bill. The Welsh Government has worked alongside stakeholders following the introduction of the Bill to the Assembly in October 2017 – and will continue to do so as the Bill progresses through the remaining legislative stages. This may result in amendments and adjustments to documents planned for the introduction, implementation and enforcement of the Bill, which could help promote the use of the Welsh language where it makes practicable and possible sense.

**Adverse effects/impacts:**

The ability of local authorities (and other key partners and stakeholders) to offer increased Welsh language provision may be competing with other service priorities. This will be considered during the development and implementation of the legislation, with the aim of minimising the impact where possible.

**Opportunities to promote the Welsh language e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life, Welsh at work increased?**

Opportunities for explaining the policy and providing information on the requirements of the legislation will be available in Welsh. This will provide an opportunity for Welsh-speakers to use Welsh at work and will give them the confidence to explain the new policy in their preferred language.

**Evidence/data used including demographic profile when considering the effects/impacts:**

Welsh language provision used by local authorities should be assessed to consider if adjustments/requirements are needed on a local or national level.

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<tr>
<th>What is the overall anticipated likely impact on the Welsh language if this policy is taken forward based on the impact assessment/risk assessment?</th>
<th>Positive:</th>
<th>Adverse:</th>
<th>Neutral:</th>
<th>Unknown:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decision following IA</td>
<td>1. No major change</td>
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<td>2. Adjust the policy to improve impacts</td>
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<td>3. Continue the policy with mitigation measures</td>
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<td>4. Stop and remove the policy</td>
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If answered 2, 3, or 4 above – then answer the following:
How will you address these impacts in order to improve the outcomes for the Welsh language? Details of mitigation measures/ action points/ alternative options to reduce adverse impacts and increase positive outcomes:

If engaging or consulting, what are your plans? What questions do you wish to ask stakeholders about the Welsh Language Impact Assessment and Welsh language related issues?

This proposal to introduce an MUP was consulted on in the Public Health White Paper between 2 April and 24 June 2014 and following the publication of the draft Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Bill in 2015. Consultation documents, including easy read and youth friendly versions, were available bilingually on the Welsh Government website, as well as in bilingual printed copies. Bilingual public and stakeholder engagement events were also held in 2014 and 2015.

In addition to detailed questions about each policy proposal, the 2014 Public Health White Paper included a question about how any of the proposals could impact on the Welsh language. No negative impacts were identified. A number of respondents generally commented that legislation developments need to take account of other existing Welsh Government policies and strategies, such as the “More than just words….” strategic framework for strengthening Welsh language in health and social care. The response to the consultation from the Welsh Language Commissioner did not include detailed comments on the proposal but emphasised the importance of accurate assessment of needs and meaningful engagement with local citizens in the context of developing community health assets.

In consulting and engaging with various groups, stakeholders and individuals and while working with those seeking treatment for alcohol misuse, services will be available in Welsh and English in line with the Welsh Language Standards and the “More than just words…. “strategic framework.

STAGE 3: POST CONSULTATION AND PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Following consultation, what changes have you made to address any Welsh language issues that were raised?

None at present. However this is being continually reviewed alongside stakeholder engagement at all stages of the development of the Bill.

A project board has been established to oversee the introduction of the Bill; its members include colleagues from translation services. Welsh language requirements will be a standing issue discussed at all project board meetings.
### How will you monitor the ongoing effects during the implementation of the policy?

Welsh language issues and requirements will be considered on an ongoing basis in relation to all key stages of the Bill and subsequently, regarding its implementation and enforcement.

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

By discussing and considering requirements as they are raised and outlining any issues in this assessment, as required.

### Any other comments – ongoing results of evaluations, emerging impacts

N/A.

## 4. Declaration

### Policy lead:

*Please delete as appropriate:

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

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<th>Name:</th>
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<td>Chris Gittins</td>
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<th>Department:</th>
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<td>Health and Social Services</td>
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<th>Date (s):</th>
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<th>Signature:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joanna Jordan</td>
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<th>Planned Review Dates:</th>
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<tr>
<td>To be kept under review throughout the development of legislation (June to September 2017) and during the passage of the Bill through the National Assembly for Wales (currently expected to be October 2017 to July 2018).</td>
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**SRO ENDORSEMENT and REVIEW**

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

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<tr>
<th>Signed: Tracey Breheny</th>
<th>Date: August 2017</th>
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<td>(Senior Responsible Owner)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Signed: Joanna Jordan</th>
<th>Review Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Senior Responsible Owner)</td>
<td>May 2018</td>
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<th>Signed: (Senior Responsible Owner)</th>
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