

Equality Impact Assessment

1. Under s.149 of the Equality Act 2010, when making decisions, Epping District Council must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, ie have due regard to:
 - eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
 - advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
 - fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
2. The characteristics protected by the Equality Act are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage/civil partnership
 - pregnancy/maternity
 - race
 - religion/belief
 - sexual orientation.
3. In addition to the above protected characteristics you should consider the cross-cutting elements of the proposed policy, namely the social, economic and environmental impact (including rurality) as part of this assessment. These cross-cutting elements are not a characteristic protected by law but are regarded as good practice to include.
4. The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) document should be used as a tool to test and analyse the nature and impact of either what we do or are planning to do in the future. It can be used flexibly for reviewing existing arrangements but in particular should enable identification where further consultation, engagement and data is required.
5. Use the questions in this document to record your findings. This should include the nature and extent of the impact on those likely to be affected by the proposed policy or change.
6. Where this EqIA relates to a continuing project, it must be reviewed and updated at each stage of the decision.
7. All **Cabinet, Council, and Portfolio Holder reports must be accompanied by an EqIA**. An EqIA should also be completed/reviewed at key stages of projects.
8. To assist you in completing this report, please ensure you read the guidance notes in the Equality Analysis Toolkit and refer to the following Factsheets:
 - Factsheet 1: Equality Profile of the Epping Forest District
 - Factsheet 2: Sources of information about equality protected characteristics
 - Factsheet 3: Glossary of equality related terms
 - Factsheet 4: Common misunderstandings about the Equality Duty
 - Factsheet 5: Frequently asked questions
 - Factsheet 6: Reporting equality analysis to a committee or other decision making body

Section 1: Identifying details

Your function, service area and team: Transformation, Office of the Chief Executive

If you are submitting this EqIA on behalf of another function, service area or team, specify the originating function, service area or team: Not applicable

Title of policy or decision: Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Officer completing the EqIA: David Bailey, Head of Transformation Tel: 01992 564105
Email: dbailey@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Date of completing the assessment: Friday 3 November 2017

Section 2: Policy to be analysed

2.1	<p>Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?</p> <p>New Corporate Plan for 2018/19 to 2022/23 which supersedes the Corporate Plan for 2015-2020.</p>
2.2	<p>Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):</p> <p>The Corporate Plan is the Council's premium strategic document, laying out the Council's purpose, aims and objectives for the medium and short-term.</p> <p>What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve (ie decommissioning or commissioning a service)?</p> <p>Adoption of the Corporate Plan and annual Corporate Specification enables the strategic coordination of all major objectives set by the Council.</p>
2.3	<p>Does or will the policy or decision affect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• service users• employees• the wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities? <p>The Corporate Plan is not in itself a vehicle for decision making. Its approach is to articulate the Council's strategic direction in a coherent document. Where individual objectives or actions from the Plan require key decisions, these are the subject of individual reports, each accompanied by its own Equality Impact Assessment.</p> <p>Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?</p> <p>Yes, at the strategic level.</p>
2.4	<p>Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?</p>

	Decisions on resources to deliver the Corporate Plan are taken through the annual budget approval process.
2.5	<p>Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies and how, if applicable, does the proposed policy support corporate outcomes?</p> <p>The Corporate Plan is the Council's premium strategic policy. All other Council policies and decisions support the delivery of the Corporate Plan.</p>

Section 3: Evidence/data about the user population and consultation¹

As a minimum you must consider what is known about the population likely to be affected which will support your understanding of the impact of the policy, eg service uptake/usage, customer satisfaction surveys, staffing data, performance data, research information (national, regional and local data sources).

3.1	<p>What does the information tell you about those groups identified?</p> <p>An overview of key issues impacting the population of Epping Forest district, health and well-being, and demand on services is given in the attached profile of people living in Epping Forest.</p>
3.2	<p>Have you consulted or involved those groups that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision you want to implement? If so, what were their views and how have their views influenced your decision?</p> <p>No.</p>
3.3	<p>If you have not consulted or engaged with communities that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision, give details about when you intend to carry out consultation or provide reasons for why you feel this is not necessary:</p> <p>Where decisions are required to change Council policy these will be subject to a key decision report, which will be accompanied by its own Equality Impact Assessment. Any consultation with communities that are likely to be affected by the decision may be undertaken at that time.</p>

Section 4: Impact of policy or decision

Use this section to assess any potential impact on equality groups based on what you now know.

Description of impact	Nature of impact Positive, neutral, adverse (explain why)	Extent of impact Low, medium, high (use L, M or H)
Age	<p><u>Older people</u> An ageing population is increasing demand on local services.</p> <p>Health interventions need to reach high risk groups to reduce the number of preventable health conditions and service demand.</p> <p>Slightly higher rate of hospital admissions due to hip fractures than England.</p> <p>Increasing number of people with dementia. Unpaid carers require support to achieve their role.</p> <p>Ageing population will impact on the availability of health services, housing and care homes.</p> <p><u>Children and young people</u> Average level of Chlamydia testing and percentages testing positive.</p> <p>Low rates of children in care.</p> <p>Average level of eligibility for free early education entitlement (two year olds) but lowest take up rate in Essex.</p>	L
Disability	No data available	-
Gender	Epping Forest district population: 64,219 – 51.5% female 60,440 – 48.5% male	L
Gender reassignment	No data available	-
Marriage/civil partnership	Living arrangements: Of 100,762 persons- 60,592 living as a couple 49,472 married or in a registered same-sex civic partnership	L

Pregnancy/maternity	Low rate of teenage pregnancy (which is linked to a range of poor outcomes in later life).	L
Race	Population of the district: 89.2% White 3.3% Asian 1.8% Black 5.7% Others, including Mixed	L
Religion/belief	Population of the district: 61.8% Christian 3.2% Jewish 0.3% Buddhist 1.9% Muslim 0.3% Other religion 22.5% No religion 1.4% Hindu 1% Sikh 7.6% Do not wish to disclose	L
Sexual orientation	The Government Equality Office estimates there are 1.5 million LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) people in the UK.	L
Poverty	Few deprived areas with poor health and unemployment. Pockets of child poverty.	L
Crime and safety	Average rate of crime and residents feeling safe. Low population density.	L
Recycling	Higher than average waste recycling levels.	L
Healthy lifestyles	Although lower than average, reducing smoking, drinking and obesity, plus increasing physical activity, are all areas for improvement. Hospital admissions due to alcohol related conditions are better than England average. Fall in number of adults in substance misuse treatment.	L
Physical and mental health	Increase rate of diabetes although it is below average. Rate of those killed / seriously injured on	L

	<p>the roads is significantly above average.</p> <p>Good well-being amongst pupils and adults and a lower than average percentage with mental health problems.</p>	
Housing	<p>High proportion of owner occupiers, with low proportion of social housing.</p> <p>Highest rise in house prices in Essex.</p> <p>Relatively high proportions on housing waiting list but lower than average in temporary accommodation.</p> <p>Third lowest rate of homeless households in Essex.</p>	L
Education	<p>The proportions who are ready for school and who achieve a good level of development at age 5 are close to the Essex average but there is a gap for those eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>Close to average proportion achieve five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C.</p> <p>Lower than average proportion attend a good or outstanding school.</p> <p>More pupils than average aspire to go to university.</p>	L
Employment	<p>Lower proportion of adults with no qualifications.</p> <p>Slightly lower than average adult unemployment and average proportion of young people Not in Education Employment of Training (NEET).</p> <p>Higher than average number of economically inactive adults.</p> <p>Lower than average ratio of jobs per population but increasing number of jobs.</p> <p>Most businesses have 9 or fewer employees.</p>	L
Transport	<p>Fourth longest average travel time by public transport or walking to reach key services in Essex.</p>	L

	<p>Below average percentage of residents who are satisfied with roads, local bus services and local transport information.</p> <p>Access to a car is essential for people out of work and not able to use public transport or walk to an employment centre. 16% may miss out on work opportunities unless they have access to a car.</p>	
--	--	--

Section 5: Conclusion			
		Tick Yes/No as appropriate	
5.1	Does the EqIA in Section 4 indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The adoption of the Corporate Plan itself does not make any decisions, save for the indication of strategic direction. Any decisions on policy changes indicated by the Corporate Plan would be subject to a key decision report as appropriate and contain an individual Equality Impact Assessment.
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If 'YES', use the action plan at Section 6 to describe the adverse impacts and what mitigating actions you could put in place.

Section 6: Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts		
What are the potential adverse impacts?	What are the mitigating actions?	Date they will be achieved.
This report is for the coordination of strategic direction. There are no policy decisions contained in this report.	Any key decision regarding a policy change would require its own report and be accompanied by a detailed Equality Impact Assessment as appropriate.	As and when any key decision is brought forward.

Section 7: Sign off

**I confirm that this initial analysis has been completed appropriately.
(A typed signature is sufficient.)**

Signature of Head of Service: David Bailey

Date: 3 November 2017

Signature of person completing the EqIA: David Bailey

Date: 3 November 2017

Advice

Keep your director informed of all equality & diversity issues. We recommend that you forward a copy of every EqIA you undertake to the director responsible for the service area. Retain a copy of this EqIA for your records. If this EqIA relates to a continuing project, ensure this document is kept under review and updated, eg after a consultation has been undertaken.