

# 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: Community Services – Community Safety

If you are submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team, specify the originating function, service area or team: N/A

Title of policy or decision: Authority to commission additional policing or security company resources, in order for them to patrol, deter crime and ASB in the district and apply enforcement where required.

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Date of completing the assessment: 23/11/17

## Section 2: Policy to be analysed

2.1 Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project? This is a new decision, which is a change to usual service provision of the Council.

2.2 Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):  
The report is in three main parts;  
To seek authority from Cabinet to appoint a security company on an interim basis, to provide patrolling of key areas in the district where incidences of ASB, Youth Nuisance and crime are high.  
To agree funding for this proposal and authority to waive CSO's in respect of procurement  
To consider future needs in respect of local policing and patrolling.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve (ie decommissioning or commissioning a service)?  
Commissioning an interim service initially and then potentially a more permanent solution to support the reduction of crime and ASB in the district.

2.3 Does or will the policy or decision affect:

- service users
- employees
- the wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities?

The decision to proceed with the recommendations of the report, will affect the wider community in a positive way in that it is expected to see a reduction in crime, youth nuisance and general ASB

It will not negatively impact on the protected characteristic groups.

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?

No.

2.4	Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources? The initial decision required in the report will involve a supplementary estimate of £25,000 in 2016/17 (Jan- March) for provision of security services and youth engagement work.
2.5	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? The decision to appoint a security company will meet the Council's Corporate Plan aims in terms of keeping people safer and reducing fear of crime.

### Section 3: Evidence/data about the user population and consultation<sup>1</sup>

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?          There are no implications for protected characteristic groups. The impact on all people in the communities of the district will be positive, as they will benefit from the provision of enhanced security and visible patrolling, which will provide a deterrent to ASB and crime in general and a reduction in fear of crime.</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?          The report and decision is in response to community unrest in relation to ASB and the Council's awareness of the significant escalation in local concerns. Several public events have been held as a result of public outcry and the communities have sought reassurance from the Council that additional security will be made available.</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:          As above.</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><b>P</b> The commissioning of a security company will also include positive engagement work with young people, in order to encourage them not to commit crime and ASB.</p>	M
Disability	None	
Gender	None	
Gender reassignment	None	
Marriage/civil partnership	None	
Pregnancy/maternity	None	

Race	None	
Religion/belief	None	
Sexual orientation	None	

## Section 5: Conclusion

		Tick Yes/No as appropriate	
5.1	Does the EqlA in Section 4 indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?	No X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If ' <b>YES</b> ', use the action plan at <b>Section 6</b> 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.

**Section 7: Sign off**

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

Signature of Head of Service: Alan Hall

Date: 24/11/17

Signature of person completing the EqIA: Julie Chandler

Date: 24/11/17

**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.