

Equality Impact Assessment Record

Date of EIA	December 2009
Directorate	Chief Executive's Office
Part One - Initial Screening Record	
1. Activity to be assessed	Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership 2008-2011 (2009 Refresh)
2. What is the activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function/procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Review <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change
3. Is it a new or existing activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing
4. Who are the members of the EIA team?	Crime & Disorder Reduction Team (CDRT)
5. Initial screening assessment. If the answer to either of these questions is 'yes' then it is necessary to go ahead with a full Equality Impact Assessment.	<p>1. Does the activity have the potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the Councils workforce or the community?</p> <p>The CDRP Plan aims to treat all persons fairly and equally. It is, however, possible that some sections of the community may consider that they are not recognised as an identifiable community with specific needs as much as they might like. The CDRP Plan has been written to take account of differences identified through race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender, religion and belief and disability.</p> <p>2. Does the activity make a positive contribution to equalities?</p> <p>The CDRP Plan expresses a vision of allowing everyone to be free from being a victim of crime and anti-social behaviour, to feel safe and to choose their own lifestyle.</p> <p>The CDRP Plan has been circulated around the membership of the CDRP, the Bracknell Forest Domestic Abuse Forum, the Bracknell Forest Minorities Alliance, the Access Advisory Forum, the TVP Community & Diversity Department and the Bracknell Forest Disability Forum, for their comments. Representatives of the Youth Offending Service and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team are represented</p>
6. Did Part 1: Initial Screening indicates that a full EIA was necessary?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – full EIA completed and recorded below.

Part Two - Full EIA Record

<p>7. Why is a full EIA being completed on the activity? Double click on boxes to check all that apply.</p>	<p>The activity has the potential to have an adverse impact/discriminate against different groups in the community. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The activity makes a positive contribution to equalities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (see the answer to 2)</p>
<p>8. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?</p>	<p>The purpose of the activity is to: Reduce crime and disorder for the whole community, to encourage the reporting of 'hidden crimes' and to foster a positive perception of community safety within the Borough. The CDRP Plan's six priorities are crime, perceptions, community issues, drugs & alcohol, anti-social behaviour and regeneration & development.</p> <p>The activity is designed for: All sections of the community</p>
<p>9. Summarise the information gathered for this EIA including research and consultation to establish what impact the activity has on different equality groups.</p>	<p>The CDRP has a broad membership through its statutory members and the various forums and sub-groups that report to it. Consultation has been made with all these groups and the document has been circulated for comment. (A list of these bodies is reflected under question 5 part 2).</p> <p>In terms of consultations conducted with the public, a Neighbourhood Survey was conducted in 2008 and is in the process of being conducted now in 2009 and involves obtaining feedback from members of the community in the form of a survey form which is sent to each household in the Borough. Forums are held bi-annually in each neighbourhood where members of the community can voice their opinion of their neighbourhood and be heard by agencies such as the council and police. Online forums are also being piloted in the Borough. The feedback from all 3 of the above methods of consultation is collated annually and priorities identified. Specific actions and targets to achieve these priorities inform the CDRP action plan.</p> <p>Further to the above, the CDRP Plan, which covers the period 2008-2011, was launched at a public event in June 2008 to which the public were invited. The launch included a 'question and answer' session whereby questions from the public were made to a panel of CDRP representatives.</p> <p>The CDRP Plan has the potential to affect everyone in the community but research would suggest that some groups are more likely to be victims of crime & disorder and substance misuse than others i.e. women for domestic abuse, LGBT people for hidden crime, older people and those with disability for abuse, children for abuse as well as those from a lower socio-economic background. These points have been summarised below:</p> <p><u>Race and Ethnicity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2001 Census showed that 90.6% of the population was 'White British'. The BME population was 5.9%. However, since 2001 the number of school pupils from Minority Ethnic Groups grew from 6.1% to 14% in 2007. (Bracknell Forest Local Area Agreement) • In 2002/03, adults from a mixed race or Asian background were more likely than those from other ethnic groups to be victims of crime in England and Wales (National Statistics Online) • In 2002/03, the risk of being the victim of a racially motivated incident was higher for members of minority ethnic groups than for White people (National Statistics Online) • Black and Asian victims of domestic abuse may endure it longer than other

victims due to not knowing what help is available, fears of their community, language barriers, and the lack of availability in specialist cultural services (BF Domestic Abuse Forum 2005-2008)

- Victims of race hate may not have the trust and confidence to approach the police directly and third party reporting sites are a good way to provide confidence and assist in improving intelligence flow from the community
- People from minority ethnic groups were much more likely than White people to report that they were 'very worried' about crime (National Statistics Online)

Sexual Orientation

- Alcohol research has found that members of the LGBT community have specific needs relating to alcohol use – including higher levels of alcohol misuse which does not decline with age (Richmond Community Safety Partnership EINA)
- Domestic abuse not only takes place within opposite sex relationships but is prevalent in LGBT relationships but is not reported due to social barriers (Richmond Community Safety Partnership EINA)

Age

- Research shows that the elderly who live on their own are more at risk of becoming victims of bogus callers or distraction burglary (Crime and Disorder Audit 2005)
- A Fear of Crime study conducted in the Borough in 2005 and 2007 showed that single parent families (usually women), tenants and the elderly experienced higher levels of fear of crime than other sections of the community (Bracknell Forest Council)
- Domestic violence is a major risk indicator for children in the family with 40-60% of children witnessing domestic abuse being likely to be physically abused by the perpetrator (BF Domestic Abuse Forum 2005-2008)
- Online safety for children and young people is becoming an increasing concern as the number of children and young people accessing the internet at a younger age becomes apparent (EU Kids Online Final Report 2009)
- Young adults are more likely than older people to be victims of crime (National Statistics Online) – this may be as a result of their lifestyles

Gender

- 1 in 4 women will experience domestic abuse at some time in their lives from the age of 16 and 6-10% will experience domestic abuse in any given year (Home Office Statistics 2005)
- 1 in 6 men will experience domestic abuse at some time in their lifetime (Home Office Statistics 2005)
- A Fear of Crime study conducted in the Borough in 2005 and 2007 showed that single parent families (usually women), tenants and the elderly experienced higher levels of fear of crime than other sections of the community

Religion and Belief

- The British population is more culturally diverse than ever before (National Statistics Online)
- There are 45 different faith or belief groups in or serving the borough. Figures from the 2001 census reported 72% Christian, 18% no religion, 7.4% not stated and other faiths totalling 2.4%
- Work is underway to establish a faith and belief forum in the borough.

Disability

- Research shows that people with disabilities can be targeted by bogus

	<p>callers/unscrupulous traders as well as distraction burglary (Crime & Disorder Audit 2005)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIND (National Association for Mental Health) research has shown that people with mental health problems are 11 times more likely to be victimised than the population as a whole with 22% of their respondents having been assaulted in the previous year compared to 3.6% of the population cited in the British Crime Survey • MENCAP advises that people with learning disabilities are increasingly reporting hate crime directed to them 	
<p>10. A) With regard to the equalities themes, which groups does the activity impact upon?</p> <p>B) Might any of these groups be adversely impacted?</p> <p>If you have not got sufficient information to make a judgement, go to box 17 and list the actions that you will take to collect further information.</p>	<p>A) Groups Impacted</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race and ethnicity</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - please specify</p>	<p>B) Groups impacted adversely</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Race and ethnicity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gender</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Age</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - please specify</p> <p>None of the above</p>
<p>11. What evidence is there to suggest an impact/adverse impact?</p>	<p>A) Evidence of Impact</p> <p>The CDRP Plan aims to make a positive contribution to equalities and makes the statement that everyone has the right to be free from being a victim of crime and anti-social behaviour, to feel safe and to choose their own lifestyle. It also stresses the need to respect differences in others.</p> <p>Work that is currently being undertaken in respect of race & ethnicity, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation and regional & belief are included in the action plan of the CDRP Plan and are detailed under question 14.</p> <p>All statutory partners of the CDRP have signed up to the Plan and fully support its objectives. The targets will be regularly monitored and regular performance reports will be made public. Some of the targets within the Plan also form part of the Bracknell Forest Local Area Agreement (LAA) which has a separate performance monitoring structure. At the meetings of the sub-group of the CDRP and at the quarterly CDRP Executive meetings, the action plan will be used to monitor performance.</p> <p>B) Adverse Impact</p> <p>The CDRP Plan used the phrase 'addressing violent extremism'. This is taken from the government's Prevent Strategy which is required to be delivered by local authorities. The Prevent Strategy is part of the Contest action plan to protect the UK against terrorist attack. Members of the Muslim population locally have expressed unease over this strategy as they feel it identifies violent extremism with Islam. Therefore, the name Prevent is not used and the plan refers to the more generic 'violent extremism'.</p>	
<p>12. On what grounds can impact or adverse impact be justified?</p>	<p>The law and central government policy (i.e. Prevent)</p> <p>Resources are positively targeted at certain equalities groups who are disproportionately the victims of crime and/or have a higher fear of crime.</p>	

<p>13. Have any examples of good practice been identified as part of the EIA?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>14. What actions are you currently undertaking to address issues for any of the groups impacted/adversely impacted?</p>	<p><u>Race & Ethnicity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racial Incidents Advisory Forum (RIAF) meet regularly to discuss racial incidents in the Borough and how to tackle them • Secondary school assemblies are due to take place in September 2009 and are aimed at raising racial awareness • Media messages have been compiled making the public aware of what racist incidents and to encourage reporting of this hidden crime <p><u>Sexual Orientation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BF Domestic Abuse Forum recently supported a local conference aimed to raise awareness of domestic abuse in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender relationships • The Community Safety Manager attends the membership of the group Gay Berkshire to engage with the community <p><u>Age</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CDRP is represented at Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (vulnerable and elderly) and Local Safeguarding Children Board (children) meetings and supports their work. • The Crime and Disorder Reduction Team also undertakes chairing arrangements for the e-safety sub-group of the LSCB which aims to safeguard children online. It is also represented at the Bullying sub-group of the LSCB <p><u>Gender</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bracknell Forest Domestic Abuse Forum meets bi-monthly and has Executive and Programme Development sub-groups. The Forum's Action Plan has specific to raise awareness around domestic abuse as well as maintain and improve support services. It also aims to increase reporting of this hidden crime. <p><u>Religion & Belief</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings are held with BICS (Bracknell Islamic Cultural Society) with regard to Prevent work • The Prevent Steering Group meets regularly and is attended by TVP Community & Diversity Officers <p><u>Disability</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CDRP is represented at Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board meetings
<p>15. What actions will you take to reduce or remove any differential/adverse impact? Please also list any other actions you will take to maximise positive impacts.</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action which represents most voluntary groups in the Borough is a member of the CDRP. Diversity issues are also considered at the Community Cohesion & Engagement Working Group.</p> <p>Most of the actions in the CDRP Plan are monitored by sub-groups such as the Domestic Abuse Forum and RIAF as well as other partnerships such as the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (as well as their sub-groups including e-safety sub-group and bullying sub-group).</p>

	<p>The CDRT (Crime & Disorder Reduction Team) will ensure that the strategy makes a positive contribution and does not have any unintended adverse impact.</p> <p>The following gaps in equalities monitoring have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakdown of victims and offenders in Bracknell Forest by all the equality strands will be sought (this has been raised with Thames Valley Police) • Further work is needed on the religion and belief and sexual orientation strands to further understand the make up of the local community and their issues in relation to crime and disorder.
<p>16. Into which action plan/s will these actions be incorporated?</p>	<p>CDRP Plan Action Plan (refreshed annually)</p>
<p>17. Who is responsible for the action plan?</p>	<p>Ian Boswell (Community Safety Manager and CDRP Lead, BFC)</p>
<p>18. Chief Officers signature.</p>	<p>Ian Boswell (Community Safety Manager)</p>
<p>19. Which PMR will this EIA be reported in?</p>	<p>Q4 – 2009/10</p>