

Equality Impact Assessment Record

Date of EIA	March 2010
Directorate	Environment Culture & Communities
Part One - Initial Screening Record	
1. Activity to be assessed	Spatial Policy Section
2. What is the activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy/strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function/procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Review <input checked="" 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?	Head of Spatial Policy/Team Managers.
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 preparation of spatial policy will guide the location of future development and the allocation of land for different uses (part of the requirements for planning set out in PPS1). This has the potential to advantage some groups at the expense of others.</p> <p>2. Does the activity make a positive contribution to equalities?</p> <p>By ensuring that policies all members of the community and other stakeholders are.</p>
6. Did Part 1: Initial Screening indicate 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"/> The activity makes a positive contribution to equalities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>8. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?</p>	<p>The purpose of the activity is to: prepare, and advise on, spatial policy (including the inter-relationship between design, environmental, planning and transport) and guidance and to create legal agreements to secure a wide range of developer contributions towards the Borough's infrastructure. The climate change team manage the Council's energy consumption and CO2 emissions, prepare and monitor the climate change action plan and engage in other climate change initiatives.</p> <p>The activity is designed for: use by all those having an interest in spatial policy and the sustainable development of land (whether as a Member, landowner, developer, applicant, objector, infrastructure provider, decision-maker etc). The activities are designed to benefit all those living, working and spending time in the Borough and future generations.</p>
<p>9. Summarise the information gathered for this EIA including research</p>	<p>Methodology for the preparation of spatial policy is specified in Planning Policy Statement 12, published by Communities and Local Government. PPS12 defines the specific consultation requirements for all Local Development Documents (LDD) which a local planning authority must prepare according to the Town and County Planning Act 2004. In addition a key LDD is the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which was adopted by the Council on 12th July 2006. Section 5 of the SCI identifies the need to consult "on policy ..." to reach a cross-section of the community</p>

<p>and consultation to establish what impact the activity has on different equality groups.</p>	<p>in relation to social and economic status, ethnic origin, religion/faith, age, gender, physical and mental ability and literacy.”</p> <p>The following consultations on spatial policy have taken place since October 2007: o/s 19/03/09</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Management Housing and Commercial Policies and Sites DPD • Amen Corner SPD • Limiting the Impact of Development SPD • Core Strategy DPD • Parking Standards SPD • Draft Character Areas SPD • Draft Special Protection Area SPD • Early Stakeholders Workshop on Site Allocations DPD • Local transport Plan • Sustainable Resource Management SPD • Climate Change Action Plan <p>For Conservation Area consultations, all residents within the Conservation Area are consulted by letter to each address. For other spatial policy documents, consultation with stakeholders and residents is carried out according to the requirements of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The database for these consultations is administered by the Spatial Policy service, using Limehouse Software.</p>	
<p>10. A) With regard to the equality themes, which groups does the activity impact upon?</p>	<p>A) Groups impacted</p>	<p>B) Groups impacted adversely</p>

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<p>11. What evidence is there to suggest an impact/adverse impact?</p>	<p>None at present. To satisfy the needs of all sections of the community, these needs will be continuously monitored.</p> <p>If properly implemented the service provided by the Spatial Policy Section should not result in adverse impacts other than those which can be justified</p>	
<p>12. On what grounds can impact or adverse impact be justified?</p>	<p>Proportionality.</p>	
<p>13. Have any examples of good practice been identified as part of the</p>	<p>No.</p>	

EIA?	
<p>14. What actions are you currently undertaking to address issues for any of the groups impacted/adversely impacted?</p>	<p>Iterative preparation of spatial strategies, policies and guidance according to the Local Development Scheme by the Spatial Policy service.</p> <p>For Conservation Area consultations, where each address is approached, an equalities monitoring sheet will be included with the consultation document. We will compare the equalities mix of responders to details of the population in the area consulted.</p> <p>Training workshops will be arranged for all key members of the Spatial Policy Service on how to build equalities issues into the consultation process.</p>
<p>15. What actions will you take to reduce or remove any differential/adverse impacts?</p> <p>Please also list any other actions you will take to maximise positive impacts.</p>	<p>None at present but the situation will be kept under continual review.</p> <p>Equalities monitoring questions have been included in the questionnaire for the Site Allocations DPD consultation which may give us some information on the mix of people responding to the consultation and enable us in future to target any groups that appear to be under-represented.</p>
16.	The relevant action plans will include the

<p>Into which action plan/s will these actions be incorporated?</p>	<p>Statement of Community Involvement, ECC Departmental Service Plan and the Spatial Policy Section Work Plan prepared in the light of the Council's Medium Term Objectives and the Local Area Agreement.</p>
<p>17. Who is responsible for the action plan?</p>	<p>Chief Officer: Planning and Transport/Head of Spatial Policy</p>
<p>18. Chief Officers signature.</p>	<p>Bev Hindle Chief Officer: Planning and Transport, Environment, Culture and Communities</p>
<p>19. Which PMR will this EIA be reported in?</p>	<p>ECC PMR Q4 2009 /10</p>