Equality Impact Assessment Record

Date of EIA July 2009

Directorate Environment Culture and Communities

Initial Screening Record		
Activity to be assessed	**Travellers Site**	
What is the activity?	☐ Policy/strategy ☐ Function/procedure ☐ Project ☐ Review ☒ Service ☐ Organisational change	
Is it a new or existing activity?	☐ New ☒ Existing	
Aim / objective / purpose of the activity – who is the activity designed to benefit/target?	**The purpose of the activity is to: Provide and manage a site for Gypsies and Travellers wishing to settle in the Bracknell Forest area** **The activity is designed for: Gypsies and Travellers wishing to settle on a site which is reserved for this population.**	
Who is responsible for the activity?	The person/section/team responsible for this policy/function is: Housing Options	
Did Step 1: Initial Screening indicate that a full EIA was necessary?	X Yes – full EIA completed and recorded below. ☐ No – full EIA not completed therefore record ends here.	
Full EIA Record		
Who are the members of the EIA team?	Clare Dorning – Head of Housing Strategy and Needs Bob Orrow – Housing Options Manager Paul Beetham – Housing Enabling Officer	
What evidence has been found to indicate that the activity might need to be amended? (Include any consultation undertaken)	The Council owns a site with 18 spaces for caravans of settled travellers. A needs assessment carried out in 2007 identified a need for an additional 3 caravan spaces in the borough. At any point in time, there are approximately 15 households waiting for spaces on the site. Travellers Advisory Service is publicised to encourage households to seek support due to their tendency to avoid officialdom. There is no physical restriction to the pitches so travellers with a disability can access their pitch with ease. Disabled Facilities Grants can be accessed for the funding of adaptations to mobile homes.	
With regard to the equalities themes, which groups might be **impacted** by the activity? Might any of these groups be impacted **adversely**?	**Groups Impacted**	**Groups impacted adversely**
	☒ Race and ethnicity ☒ Disability ☒ Gender ☒ Age ☐ Sexual Orientation ☐ Religion or belief	☐ Race and ethnicity ☐ Disability ☐ Gender ☐ Age ☐ Sexual Orientation ☐ Religion or belief

What evidence is there to suggest an impact/adverse impact?	A Gypsies and Travellers needs assessment undertaken in 2007/08 identified a need for 3 additional pitches in the borough.
On what grounds can impact or adverse impact be justified?	Vacancies on the site are restricted to Gypsy and Traveller households only. Other groups cannot be allocated vacant pitches.
Is there any current action that addresses issues for any of the groups impacted/adversely impacted?	Consultation with current site residents has been undertaken. Issues such as improvement to utility blocks and improved play facilities have been raised as issues by the residents. The team are currently reviewing ways of making this provision.
What changes will you make to the activity reduce or remove any differential/adverse impact?	The allocation of vacant pitches is not currently monitored or reported. A system will be put in place to monitor this activity. Consideration will be given to submitting a bid to GOSE to fund the provision of additional pitches in the borough. Options for securing funding to improve to the utility blocks on the current site will be explored.
Into which action plan/s will these actions be incorporated?	Housing Strategy
Who is responsible for the action plan?	Head of Housing Strategy and Needs
Have any examples of good practise been identified as part of the EIA?	No
Has the EIA been published on the Council website?	Yes
Who is the relevant Chief Officer and have they signed off the EIA?	Simon Hendey, Chief Officer: Housing
Which PMR will this EIA be reported in?	Quarter 2 2009/10