

Date of EIA June 2005
 Directorate Environment and Leisure
 Function or policy to be assessed **Highways and Transportation**

Is it a policy or function	Function – Highways and Transportation comprises: Highway maintenance and street lighting Transport implementation e.g. transport planning, travel planning, concessionary fares, transport related development control Transport safety e.g. road safety education, traffic lights Most of the section's work is governed by statute.
Is it a new or existing policy or function?	Existing
Aim / objective / purpose of the policy or function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide safe, secure and efficient transportation for residents and visitors to Bracknell Forest in line with statutory duties. • To reduce congestion. • To encourage alternative means of transport to cars.
Who is responsible for the policy or function?	The Assistant Director Streetcare and his teams oversee this work. Much of the day to day operational work is carried out by outside contractors, e.g. road repairs, bus service provision.
With regard to the equalities themes, which groups might be impacted by the policy or function?	Highways and Transportation provides services to all residents and visitors to Bracknell Forest. People with low incomes and people with limited mobility are most likely to be impacted by the section's functions.
Which groups might be affected adversely ?	People with low incomes and people with limited mobility
What evidence has been found to indicate this? (include any consultation undertaken)	Research and consultation with the general public, disability organisations and organisations that work with older people or people on low incomes or without access to a car.

<p>On what grounds can adverse or differential impact be justified?</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>What changes are proposed to the policy or function to reduce or remove adverse or differential impact?</p>	<p>Highways and Transportation has already taken steps to reduce or remove the potential adverse impact identified above e.g. Bus contractors are required to provide low floor buses; The national 'inclusive mobility' standards are applied to all new road schemes and major refurbishments. New designs and maintenance work for highways take account of accessibility needs and Disability Discrimination Act requirements. Concessionary fares are provided for older and disabled people Links have been made with Age Concern and other relevant organisations to promote road safety and concessionary fares. The main contractors must ensure that their operatives follow a code of behaviour that covers offensive behaviour. Contractors have recently removed operatives from working in BF because of such behaviour. The section seeks to ensure that when it consults it takes into account the communications needs of residents and holds meetings/exhibitions in suitable, accessible venues e.g. community centres.</p>
<p>In to which plan or strategy has the necessary action been incorporated?</p>	<p>Provisional Local Transport Plan. Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance. Best Value Improvement Plan for Streetcare.</p>
<p>What monitoring arrangements have been put in place?</p>	<p>Highways and Transportation monitors its work in several ways. These include spot checks by staff on the quality and performance of contractors; through the partnering arrangements it has with its main contractors; via small surveys e.g. of residents affected by a new traffic scheme; via feedback at exhibitions, road safety talks etc; a three yearly questionnaire to all households about the Local Transport Plan using a national format; None of the above monitoring specifically includes an equalities monitoring question although the Best Value Review of Streetcare did do so.</p>
<p>What conclusions have been drawn or recommendatio</p>	<p>Highways and Transportation will continue to monitor the services provided to ensure that all residents receive a safe, secure, accessible and efficient service. There is no evidence that the contractors' overall performance as an equal opportunities employer is being monitored. The Council</p>

ns have been made?	needs to consider how this will be done and by whom. The Council does not have a specific policy to provide information in Plain English. Highways and Transportation tries to do this but would welcome a council wide policy and advice to do this.
Has the information in this EIA been made publicly available?	Yes