

# Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) 2023

## 1. Housing and Homelessness Strategy

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of the proposed updated priorities of the Housing and Homelessness Strategy on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the priorities would be generally positive for all residents within the borough as the strategy aims to meet the needs of a diverse population by preventing homelessness and tackling rough sleeping, improving housing standards and quality which are sustainable.

## 2. Introduction of car parking charges to Bell Street Car Park

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of proposed introduction of car parking charges to Bell Street Car Park on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the proposal will be generally neutral for most groups and disabled people who use the car park would still be able to park for free if they have a blue badge. There could be a differentially adverse impact on people that use the car park who on a low income. However, the inclusion of a one-hour free parking period in the tariff enables a mitigation of this impact to a significant degree. There are also alternative car parks in Whitchurch which are free and on-street parking is available locally.

The changes being proposed would need to be communicated in a wide variety of ways to ensure that all residents are aware of the new car parking tariff. The charges would need to be advertised on site, objectors should be notified and the making of the traffic order would be advertised in the local paper.

## 3. Strengthening Communities grant management arrangements

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of change of management of the Strengthening Communities grant scheme from Basingstoke Voluntary Action to Basingstoke and Deane Council on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the proposal would have a generally neutral impact on all protected characterises as and the proposal shows no potential for discrimination. In addition, the scheme will help enhance the capacity and resilience of local community and voluntary sector organisations and applicants must demonstrate consideration of the impact of their proposals on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and how it will benefit the local community management of the scheme will allow for greater oversight of this.

## 4. New/improved community facility in Norden

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of a new/improved community facility in Norden on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that The introduction of a new/Improved community facility in Norden, this assessment concluded that the proposal would has a neutral impact on all protected characterises and the proposal shows no potential for discrimination.

## **5. Domestic Abuse Support Policy**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Domestic Abuse Support Policies on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that This assessment concluded that the proposal would have a positive impact on all protected characterises and the proposal shows no potential for discrimination as the policy aims to support all staff members and residents who has been affected by domestic violence.

## **6. Customer Contact Improvement Project**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of customer contact improvements on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the proposal would have a neutral impact on all protected characterises and the proposal shows no potential for discrimination.

## **7. Proposed off-street parking places order, amendment 6**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of a traffic regulation order to formalise electric vehicle charging places, disabled parking bays and the existing parking controls on the access road to Bell Street Car Park on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that that the proposal would be generally neutral for most groups but will be positive for people who are disabled and hold a blue badge as there will be enforcement of disabled parking bays to ensure they are assessable.

## **8. Enhanced Solar Photovoltaic Programme – Community Centres**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of Enhanced Solar Photovoltaic Programme – Community Centres on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. The introduction of the Enhanced Solar Photovoltaic Programme for our Community Centres will provide a more sustainable approach to the running of council-owned community buildings. This assessment concluded that it will be mainly generally positive for all protected characteristics and the proposal shows no potential for discrimination.

## **9. Reversal of £130,000 savings target for CVS grants**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of the proposed reversal of the savings target for the grants budgets on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the impact of the new scheme would be neutral or positive as although it doesn't target any specific groups, it will help enhance the capacity and resilience of local community and voluntary sector organisations; ultimately making their services more sustainable whatever client or volunteer base they serve as well as continuing to invest in a sector which does a great deal to support different groups.

## **10. Creation of a community centre emergency fund**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact of the proposed introduction of a community centre emergency fund on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that the impact of the new scheme would be neutral or positive as although it doesn't target any specific groups, it will help enhance the sustainability of community centres and the offer of services to local communities, including protected groups.

## **11. Buckskin & South Ham: Initial engagement strategy**

The impact of Buckskin & South Ham: Initial Engagement Strategy on the protected characteristics groups and the implications for the Public Sector Equality Duty. This assessment concluded that there will be no adverse impact on the protected characteristics for the Buckskin & South Ham: Initial Engagement Strategy included necessary provisions to mitigate any potential negative impacts identified. The Engagement strategy will have range of communication forms for example being translated in 7 different languages, easy read format, and face to face drop in.

## **12. Town Centre to Manydown Cycle and footpath route improvements**

This assessment concluded that the proposal will be generally positive for most group. As the proposal for cycleway and footpath improvements aims to provide safer connectivity and additional transport options for people wishing to utilise sustainable methods of travel. In addition this will meet the objectives of the Climate change agenda, and BDBC's and HCC's Transport Strategies.

## **13. Polling District and Polling Place Review 2023**

This assessment concluded that there were no negative impacts on groups with protected characteristics. There will be a positive impact for individuals who has a disability or long-term illness as it will ensure that all polling places meet accessibility requirements as set out in the Elections Act, 2022.

Polling places will be kept under review and amendment if any negative impacts arise. These will be known after the next elections.