

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT DESKTOP SCREENING

This exercise is not an EIA. It is a desktop exercise designed to establish if you need to carry out a full assessment. When completing the screening please use plain English avoiding the use of acronyms or jargon. Any documents referred to should be attached to the screening form.

Part One: basic information needed to identify the policy and prepare for screening

1.1	Directorate and Section/Unit	PEP, Economic Development and Sustainability
1.2	Title or brief description of the policy being screened.	Sustainability Policy
1.3	Screening by:	Cat Ainsworth
1.4	Date of screening	20 May 2010
1.5	Related policies/functions:	<p>Worcestershire Climate Change Strategy 2005-11 Sustainable Communities Strategy Joint core waste strategy</p> <p>WCC – Learning for Sustainability Policy Municipal Waste Strategy Local Transport Plan Carbon Management Plan Procurement Strategy Fairtrade Policy Biodiversity Action Plan Sustainable Tourism Strategy Worcs Economic Strategy</p>

1.6	To which section of the Directorate or Corporate "business/service plan" does this relate?	Corporate Plan - A Green Future
1.7	Is this a new or existing policy?	Existing, agreed by Cabinet 2006
1.8	What is the policy trying to achieve?	To maximise positive effects and minimise adverse effects on the environment and society as a result of WCC operations,
1.9	What are the planned outcomes for this policy?	To raise awareness of sustainability issues, encourage sustainable development, reduce carbon emissions and plan to adapt to the impacts of climate change
1.10	Who will benefit from the policy? How will they benefit?	This policy works to develop a strong, healthy and just society, benefiting local residents and businesses particularly vulnerable residents and small local businesses
1.11	Who is formally responsible for the delivery of this policy? If different, who is responsible for leading on the delivery?	Head of Economic Development and Sustainability , Glyn West Principal Sustainability Manager, Cat Ainsworth
1.12	What (if any) are the key priorities within this policy?	To live within environmental limits, ensure a strong healthy and just society, achieve a sustainable economy, promote good governance, use sound science responsibly
1.13	What (if any) previous consultation has been done on this policy? Who was consulted and when?	Not known- Prior to adoption by COMB and Cabinet in 2006

1.14	Is equality monitoring in place for this policy?	No
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Part Two: this is the test to see if further action is required. For the purpose of this exercise concentrate on the impact on people of differing age, gender, disability, race/ethnicity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

		Y	N	Details including what information you have based your decision on.
2.1	Is there any way in which the policy is directly discriminatory or in breach of the County Council's Equality and Diversity Policy? (see Annex E)		X	<p>Awareness raising initiatives are targeted at general public, through internet, local media, leaflets in community based centres.</p> <p>A number of initiatives to improve home energy efficiency are targeted at groups that are most at need such as elderly and low income and so positively discriminates in favour of these groups.</p> <p>Ethnic minority or disability groups are not specifically targeted but information is made available in other formats on request as per corporate policy. Information and support has been made available to ethnic minority groups via Community Fairs held in 2007 and 2008.</p>
2.2	Are there any barriers to people from minority groups getting the full benefit of this policy which have not been resolved as part of the policy?		X	No, information and support is available to all. However, budget constraints are limiting the communication channels available which may result in a reduction of the number of residents receiving these messages, for example, those without access to internet or with language barriers

2.3	Are there any other ways the policy could unintentionally deliver poorer quality outcomes for individuals because they belong to a minority group or groups?(they may belong to more than one)		X	Whilst all aspects of sustainable development and behaviours are promoted to all community groups, it is recognised that some groups have greater potential to change behaviours. For example, disabled groups and those that live in very rural areas have less potential for using sustainable travel modes (walking, cycling and public transport)
2.4	Could minority groups reasonably believe they would be likely to get poorer benefits from the policy?		X	
2.5	In what ways could this policy make a positive contribution to equality or to relations between groups?			Sustainable development encourages local communities to work together. The policy encourages citizens participation, community support and positive choice for local businesses and locally produced products. The policy supports work to plan for future climate change and protect communities and council services during severe weather events.

If the answer to questions 2.1 to 2.4 is yes or "could be yes" then you **must** take action. If the issue is straightforward then remedy this **now** so the answer changes to no. If it cannot be remedied now or there are outstanding issues you must continue on to a full EIA. Where you have decided a full EIA is not required but have identified actions which must be taken then please record these below:

Specific Action	How will you know when this is completed?	Resources/cost	Person Responsible	Completion date