

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING

Screening is the first stage in the EIA process. It has been designed to help you decide whether you need to carry out a full assessment of your policy. 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	Planning Economy & Performance Economic Development & Sustainability Unit
1.2	Title or brief description of the policy being screened.	Worcestershire Economic Strategy
1.3	Screening by:	Aamir Kayani, Strategy & Policy Officer
1.4	Date of screening	21 July 2010
1.5	Related policies/functions:	<i>Nil</i>
1.6	To which section of the Directorate or Corporate "business/service plan" does this policy relate?	<i>Economic Development & Sustainability Unit</i>
1.7	Is this a new or existing policy?	<i>Refreshed / New</i>
1.8	What is the policy seeking to achieve?	<i>Address Economic Development & Regeneration issues of the County</i>
1.9	What are the planned outcomes for this policy?	<i>Improve economic performance of the County over next 10 years</i>

1.10	Who will be affected by the policy? How could they be affected? (not sure if we need to ask this second part at this stage)?	<i>All residents and businesses of the County. The policy is aimed to have a positive impact on the Future Economic Development & Regeneration of the County</i>
1.11	Who is formally responsible for the delivery of this policy? If different, who is responsible for leading on the delivery?	Worcestershire Economy & Transport Theme Group.
1.12	What (if any) are the key priorities within this policy?	<p>The objectives and Priorities identified in Worcestershire Economic Strategy are:</p> <p><i>Business – to support the development of a dynamic and diverse business base through greater engagement with existing businesses, particularly local strategic companies, and encouraging the growth of new businesses.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing clear links with and providing sustained long term support including leadership to strategic businesses and companies in their supply chains • Developing Strategic Employment Sites such as Worcester Technology Park, with particular support for the Worcester Bosch expansion • Providing more support for business retention and new business creation • Supporting key growth sectors particularly environmental technologies • Supporting tourism • Supporting new business formation • Retaining and developing a skilled workforce to support high tech jobs and businesses especially in the future growth sectors

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving the environmental performance of businesses• Delivering the skills levels of the workforce to meet future business needs especially growth sectors. <p>People – <i>To enhance employability levels, removing barriers to employment and improving skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting job creation at all levels including self employment• Addressing worklessness, especially by reducing youth unemployment• Ensuring the economic inclusion of the most deprived communities and groups who are farthest away from the job market• Supporting people to gain at least NVQ 2 skills including improvements to the quality of training and education to meet employers' needs• Increasing apprenticeships especially in engineering and manufacturing• Supporting people who are made redundant• Facilitating improved employer engagement with the skills agenda• Improving opportunities for those who are not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET), particularly around the age of 19 (see the report on NEET elsewhere on this agenda)• Improving the training infrastructure <p>Place: <i>Supporting the sustainable development of the county through infrastructure development especially transport, and continue supporting Worcester as an accessible West Midlands Growth Point</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing the transport infrastructure
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1.13	What (if any) previous consultation has been carried out for this policy? Who was consulted and when?(think this may need to go in next section)	County wide consultation was carried out between April – May 2010. Many responses were received from Stakeholders, Partners and Councillors which contributed in refreshing the Strategy.
1.14	Is equality monitoring in place for this policy?(again, may need to be moved to next section.	N/A

Part Two: this is the test to see if further action is required. For the purpose of this exercise concentrate on the relevance for people of differing age, gender, disability, race/ethnicity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

(I think we will need to redraft this section.)

		Y	N	
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)		N	
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?		N	<i>The policy is rather aiming to remove the barriers faced by minority groups to access employment</i>
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)		N	

2.4	Could minority groups reasonably believe they would be likely to get poorer benefits from the policy?		N	
2.5	In what ways could this policy make a positive contribution to equality or to relations between groups?	Y		<i>Through better integration of the policies via the economic development & regeneration activities</i>

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