

## 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.	Worcestershire Partnership Climate Change Strategy 2005-11
1.3	Screening by:	Cat Ainsworth
1.4	Date of screening	20 May 2010
1.5	Related policies/functions:	Worcestershire County Council Sustainability Policy Sustainable Communities Strategy Joint Core Waste Strategy Worcestershire Economic Strategy Local Transport Plan Strategic Flood Risk Assessments
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 strategy?	Existing, adopted by Worcestershire Partnership in 2005, review agreed 2009

1.8	What is the strategy trying to achieve?	Raise awareness of the issues of climate change Reduce Worcestershire's climate change emissions Plan for and adapt to the impacts of climate change
1.9	What are the planned outcomes for this strategy?	To meet nationally and locally set targets for mitigating and adapting to 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 <b>delivery</b> of this policy? If different, who is responsible for <b>leading</b> on the delivery?	Independent Chair of Climate Change task group (WP Environment Theme Group), Professor John Bryson, University of Birmingham  Supported by WCC Principal Sustainability Manager, Cat Ainsworth
1.12	What (if any) are the key priorities within this policy?	To reduce carbon emissions within partnership organisations, in Worcestershire's homes and businesses, and to put plans in place to adapt to the impacts of climate change including business continuity in the event of severe weather events
1.13	What (if any) previous consultation has been done on this policy? Who was consulted and when?	Details unknown
1.14	Is equality monitoring in place for this policy?	No

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. Partner organisations communications to all staff via variety of streams eg. events, noticeboards, intranet, training sessions</p> <p>A number of initiatives to improve home energy efficiency are targeted at groups that are most at need such as elderly and those on a low income and so may positively discriminate 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 WCC 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 grants for vulnerable residents and communication channels available which may result in a reduction of the number of residents receiving these messages and related support, 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 some 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). However, support is offered to all groups to make behaviour changes where practicable.
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 strategy encourages citizens participation, community support and positive choice for local businesses and locally produced products. The strategy also 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