

Worcestershire County Council Equality Impact Assessment Simplified Desktop Screening

This exercise is not an Equality Impact Assessment. It is a simplified desktop exercise designed to establish if there is a need to carry out a full assessment.

Part One: basic information needed to identify the policy/function and to prepare for the screening.		
1.1	Directorate and Section/Unit.	Environmental Services, Passenger Transport Group
1.2	Title or brief description of the policy/function being screened.	The Independent Travel Training Project I - a countywide initiative to give individuals the skills and extra support they need to allow them to make journeys safely on their own, often using public transport.
1.3	To which section of the Directorate or Corporate "business/service plan" does this relate?	The project is being managed by the Adult & Community Services Transport Project Manager for the Safe and Sustainable Transport Manager in the Passenger Transport Group. It is being funded by Advantage West Midlands via the Worcestershire Accessibility Partnership, and will initially support pilot projects in Adult & Community Services and Children's Services by paying for training materials, training, project coordination, back-filling posts, overtime, etc.
1.4	Are there any related policies/functions? If so what are they?	The principle of promoting, encouraging and offering support for people to travel independently is included in both the Adult & Community Services Transport Policy and the Corporate Escort Policy.
1.5	Screening carried out by	Stephen Wheatley, Education Transport, Passenger Transport Group, Environmental Services.
1.6	Date of screening	2 nd July 2007
1.7	What is the policy or function trying to achieve?	The project aims to establish the provision of travel training for all those people who wish to travel independently but do not presently have the necessary skills and competencies to do so.
1.8	What are the specific outcome measures?	The outcomes are measured by the number of new people trained and travelling independently.
1.9	Who is formally responsible for ensuring the delivery of this policy/function?	The Safe and Sustainable Transport Manager in Passenger Transport Group, Emilie van de Graaff
1.10	Who is responsible for leading the delivery if different from 1.9?	The A&CS Project Manager, Bob Robinson
1.11	Are there any priorities within this policy/function? If so what are they?	Early work and the pilot schemes will target 3 groups - 14- 19 year olds with SEN, adults with Learning Disabilities and adults with Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairment
1.12	Has any consultation, explicitly on the policy/function, taken place? If so who was consulted and when?	The policies referred to in 1.4 above have been through an extensive consultation process within the County Council and are now with the Director of A&CS for progressing through COMB and Cabinet.
1.13	Is equality monitoring in place for this policy/function?	Independent travel training will be delivered through existing staff and management functions in educational, community and social care teams which already have such monitoring in place.

Part two: the test to see if further action is required. For the purpose of this exercise concentrate on the impact on people of differing race, sex, disability, age, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

		Yes	No	Details
2.1	Is there any way in which the policy/function is directly discriminatory or in breach of the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy?		X	The overall aim of the project is to promote and provide opportunities for everyone who wants to travel independently to do so. Whilst the initial target groups are clearly people with specific needs, there is no intention to discriminate against any other group; indeed, as the publicity material for the project is developed it will be made clear that there are no barriers to accessing the opportunity to be considered for travel training – you do not have to be disabled or fit into any category – you just need to want to learn to travel independently !
2.2	Are there any barriers to people from minority groups getting the full benefit of this policy/function which have not been resolved as part of the policy/function?		X	The delivery of travel training will be through existing staff, who are adding another skill to the range of services which they provide as part of their normal teaching and caring roles. Through these existing networks of support the travel trainers will offer their services to all with whom they come into contact, regardless of the minority group to which they might belong.
2.3	Are there any other ways the policy/function could unintentionally deliver poorer quality outcomes for individuals because they were members of a minority group?		X	Independent travel training is tailored specifically for each individual, and is carried out in 1:1 situations; so rather than receiving a standard package, each learner will be treated differently in accordance with their specific needs, skills and competencies, regardless of any minority group to which they might belong. Staff are already trained to ensure equality and fairness in their dealings with everyone for whom they provide services.
2.4	Could people from minority groups reasonably believe that they would be likely to get poorer benefits from the policy/function?		X	All those people whom the project seeks to help will be referred through existing access procedures, which follow WCC guidelines.
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→ If the answer to any of these questions is yes or “could be yes” then you **must** take action. If the issue is straightforward remedy it **now** so the answer changes to no. If it cannot be remedied now or there are outstanding issues you should go on to a full EIA.