

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.	PEP, Research and Intelligence Unit
1.2	Title or brief description of the policy/function being screened.	Budget Consultation Exercise
1.3	To which section of the Directorate or Corporate “business/service plan” does this relate?	The exercise aims to inform the BOLD Programme Board of the views of the Worcestershire public on potential reductions in county council service provision
1.4	Are there any related policies/functions? If so what are they?	Medium Term Financial Strategy
1.5	Screening carried out by	Claire Bloss
1.6	Date of screening	30 July 2010
1.7	What is the policy or function trying to achieve?	Gather public opinions on service priorities to inform budget setting discussions
1.8	What are the specific outcome measures?	Delivery of information regarding public priorities to inform discussions within Corporate Strategy Week 2010
1.9	Who is formally responsible for ensuring the delivery of this policy/function?	David Onions – Corporate Business Intelligence and Performance Manager
1.10	Who is responsible for leading the delivery if different from 1.9?	Chris Baker – Principal Analyst, Research and Intelligence Unit
1.11	Are there any priorities within this policy/function? If so what are they?	No
1.12	Has any consultation, explicitly on the policy/function, taken place? If so who was consulted and when?	This exercise is in itself a consultation carried out on behalf of and in conjunction with the BOLD programme board with particular reference to the Chief Executive and Director of Financial Services. Input from the Financial Services Directorate was used to determine the details of the service areas included in the consultation material.
1.13	Is equality monitoring in place for this policy/function?	Consultation materials are designed to collect demographic information such as age, gender, ethnicity, and disability to monitor the representation of minority groups

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	
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 consultation has been carried out through a postal or online survey with the Worcestershire Viewpoint panel, an online budget simulator, also with simple paper surveys available in libraries, Hubs and through local newspapers, plus face-to-face interviews with residents in areas selected so as to provide a representative sample across the county's communities. We have also used community groups and relevant contacts to target and encourage participation from groups that are found to be under-represented on the Viewpoint panel and/or are generally hard to engage in consultation. Where possible results will be weighted to account for under-representation of particular groups.
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	This consultation does not deliver outcomes for individuals but provides intelligence to inform budget setting.
2.4	Could people from minority groups reasonably believe that they would be likely to get poorer benefits from the policy/function?		X	
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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.