

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING

Directorate:	Planning , Economy and Performance	Function:	Statement of Community Involvement
Assessment by:	Peter Smith, Planning and Economic Regeneration Unit Manager Paul Maitland, Planning Manager	Related Policies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minerals and Waste Development Framework ➤ Countryside Recreation and Access Strategy
Date:	28 th march 2008	Related Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ County Matters Planning Applications

1.	What is the purpose of the function or policy?	To set out how, and when, the County Council seeks involvement in the planning of minerals and waste, and County matters planning applications
2.	What are you trying to achieve through the function or policy and why?	Strengthen community involvement in the County planning system

3.	Who is intended to benefit and how?	Communities and stakeholders by engaging them in the preparation of plans and the consideration of planning applications
4.	Are there associated aims: please explain?	To find new ways of involving the community more effectively – particularly those with an interest in planning
5.	Who defined the function or policy and the way it is carried out?	Government Statutory requirement
6.	How is the function or policy to be put into practice and who is responsible?	By informing and directing public consultation on planning matters
7.	What, if any, are the current priorities associated with the function or policy?	Improved consultation and better informed planning decisions
8.	What are the Council's specific responsibilities in relation to the function or policy?	Statutory responsibility
9.	Where does the responsibility for the function or policy finally rest? If responsibility is shared have you considered involving these departments or authorities in the assessment process, to benefit from their experience?	County Planning Authority
10.	How will the function or policy be put into effect? Who will be responsible?	By informing and directing public consultation on planning matters
11.	What are the specific outcomes you hope to see from the function or policy and for whom?	Improved consultation and better informed planning decisions

12.	What criteria will be used to measure progress towards these outcomes?	Level of engagement achieved
13.	What factors/forces could contribute/detract from these outcomes?	Lack of resources
14.	To what extent does the function or policy achieve equal opportunity and good relations between different groups?	By ensuring that groups have an input, and by targeting hard to reach groups
15.	Are the aims of the function or policy consistent with the Council's equality and diversity policy? http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/home/cs-chief-exec/cs-chief-exec-equality-and-diversity/cs-chief-exec-diversity-policy.htm	Yes
16.	Are there any risks associated with the function or policy particularly for meeting with our equality duty?	No
17.	Which individuals are likely to have an interest in the function or policy?	Stakeholders and communities – in particular hard to reach groups
18.	Do these individuals include representatives from equality groups likely to be effected by the function or policy?	Specific work undertaken to identify and engage hard to reach groups

19.	Are there concerns that the policy could have consequences for people who the Council serves or employs? Consideration should be given to race,		N	Please explain: Policy specifically aims to encourage involvement from those groups
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	gender, disability, age, sexual orientation and religion or belief.			
20.	Could these consequences differ according to people's background e.g. because they have particular needs, experiences or priorities?		N	Please explain: Policy specifically aims to encourage involvement from those groups
21.	Is there reason to believe that people could be affected differently by the function or policy according to their race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation and religion or belief ?		N	Please explain: The policy was designed to find the best ways of engaging different groups
22.	Is there evidence that any part of the function or policy could discriminate, directly or indirectly, against people from some equality groups?		N	Describe the evidence: Advice was taken from the Equality Unit
23.	Is there evidence to believe that people from some equality groups may have different expectations of the policy?		N	Please explain: No feedback to that effect
24.	Is your function or policy accessible to all equality groups within the community?	Y		If YES what evidence do you have to demonstrate this: Level of engagement of groups in preparation of policy If NO what do you consider to be the barriers and what do you plan to do in order to address this?

25.	In the past 3 years have you consulted with any of the groups regarding the delivery of and access to your service?	Y		If YES; describe when and what it told you about the service? Specific involvement of hard to reach groups in the development of the policy
26.	Are there any groups you can contact to explore their views?	Y		Please list the relevant groups: Database available on request
27.	How will the views of these groups be ascertained?	Please describe: Described in Appendices 3 and 4 of the Policy		
28.	Please describe the views of these groups?	Please explain: As expressed at the time of consultation (available on request)		
30.	Do you have any equality monitoring in place? Yes/No	Please explain: Yes – details set out in the policy		
		Do you need to install or improve the arrangements for equality monitoring? No.		

31.	Have you answered Yes to Q.19-24 or No to Q.24-25	Y	N	If yes then you must proceed to a full impact assessment.
32.	Date on which Full Impact Assessment must be completed by:			

Signed (Completing Officer)

Dated.....

Signed (Lead Officer)

Dated.....