

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – INITIAL SCREENING

Initial screening needs to take place for all new/revised Council policies. The word ‘policy’, in this context, includes the different things that the Council does. It includes any policy, procedure or practice - both in employment and service delivery. It also includes proposals for restructuring, redundancies and changes to service provision. This stage must be completed at the earliest opportunity to determine whether it is necessary to undertake an EIA for this activity.

Name of Policy:	Local Plan Single Issue Review (Proposed Submission Stage (Reg 19) consultation - May 2022
Lead Officer (responsible for assessment):	Richard Kay
Department:	Strategic Planning
Others Involved in the Assessment (i.e. peer review, external challenge):	None
Date Initial Screening Completed:	7 April 2022

- (a) **What is the policy trying to achieve?** i.e. What is the aim/purpose of the policy? Is it affected by external drivers for change? What outcomes do we want to achieve from the policy? How will the policy be put into practice?

This is the third stage in a process of Single Issue Review (SIR) of the Local Plan. The purpose of the SIR is to partially replace a very small part of the Local Plan adopted in April 2015. The intention is for the vast majority of the Local Plan (2015) to remain unaltered and remain part of the development plan for East Cambridgeshire.

The Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan has been prepared following consideration of comments received on the previous drafts of the Local Plan consultations in 2021. The Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan includes changes made in light of the comments received and also firm up options that are likely to be taken forward.

The Local Plan has update housing figures in line with latest guidance. There is no need to allocated any new land for housing as there is enough land allocated for housing and those with planning permissions to meet the housing need.

- (b) **Who are its main beneficiaries?** i.e. who will be affected by the policy?

Once the Local Plan is adopted, it will update housing figures in line with government guidance. The policies will be used by the Council to determine planning applications, and sets the framework for growth across the district. Therefore, all residents and business of, and visitors to, the district will be affected by the proposals, to a lesser or greater degree.

(c) Is this assessment informed by any information or background data? i.e. consultations, complaints, applications received, allocations/take-up, satisfaction rates, performance indicators, access audits, census data, benchmarking, workforce profile etc.

The Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan has principally been informed by the current adopted Local Plan 2015, an evidence base and widespread consultation which has taken place during its progresses, including three separate stages of consultation. Everyone is permitted (and encouraged) to get involved in the consultation.

(d) Does this policy have the potential to cause a positive or negative impact on different groups in the community, on the grounds of any of the protected characteristics (please tick all that apply):

Ethnicity	No	Age	No
Sex	No	Religion or Belief	No
Disability	No	Sexual Orientation	No
Gender Reassignment	No	Marriage & Civil Partnership	No
Pregnancy & Maternity	No		

Please explain any impact identified: i.e. What do you already know about equality impact or need? Is there any evidence that there is a higher or lower take-up by particular groups? Have there been any demographic changes or trends locally? Are there any barriers to accessing the policy or service?

The Local Plan only updates housing figures in line with latest government guidance. There is no perceived adverse or beneficial impact on any particular group or groups in the community.

(e) Does the policy affect service users or the wider community?	NO
(f) Does the policy have a significant effect on how services are delivered?	NO
(g) Will it have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?	NO
(h) Does it involve a significant commitment of resources?	NO
(i) Does it relate to an area where there are known inequalities, e.g. disabled people's access to public transport etc?	NO

If you have answered **YES** to any of the questions above, then it is necessary to proceed with a full equality impact assessment (EIA). If the answer is **NO**, then this judgement and your response to the above questions will need to be countersigned by your Service Lead Officer and then forwarded to the HR Manager.

Signatures:

Completing Officer:	<u>Harj Kumar</u>	Date:	<u>26/04/2022</u>
Service Lead Officer:	<u>Richard Kay</u>	Date:	<u>26/04/2022</u>