

Equality Impact Toolkit (new version July 2011)

Section 1: Your details

Council officer: Dawn Tolcher

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Head of Service: Julia Hassall

Department: CYPD

Date: 6.01.12

Section 2: What Council function / proposal is being assessed?

The project is to develop Wirral Youth Zone. It will be a large youth club consisting of sports hall, multi purpose areas, mentor rooms, kitchen/café, 3G pitch. It will offer a large variety of services to young people aged 8-21, up to 25 for those with a disability. It will be open 365 days per year.

Section 3: Is the Council function / proposal relevant to equality? (please tick relevant boxes)

- In services**
- In the workforce**
- In communities**
- Other** (please state)
- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Head of Service who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Within the Equality Duty 2010, there are 3 legal requirements. Which of the following are relevant to the Council function / proposal? (please tick relevant boxes)

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- To advance equality of opportunity

✓ To foster good relations between groups of people

Section 5: Will the function / proposal have a favourable or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any negative impact.

Protected characteristic	Favourable or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Race, religion and belief	<p>Favourable The facility will be inclusive to all and will work with key agencies to ensure activities and approaches are inclusive to all. Some cultural specific activities can be developed if identified as wanted by the young people.</p>				
Gender	<p>Favourable Activities will be inclusive to all, where gender specific activities will enhance participation with young people they will be delivered.</p>				
Disability	<p>Favourable The facility will be</p>				

	<p>inclusive to all. Guidance will be obtained over the structure of the building to ensure it is fully accessible. There will be a mixture of specialist and inclusive activities to ensure activities meet the needs of all.</p>				
<p>Gender reassignment/ Pregnancy and Maternity/sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnerships</p>	<p>Favourable The facility will be utilised by professionals to offer advice, mentoring and counselling when needed. This would be available to talk through and gain support with any issues the young people are facing.</p>				
<p>Age</p>	<p>Favourable The facility will enhance facilities for young people aged 5-19, up to 25 for people with a disability.</p>				

Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

The model for this development is the same as other Youth Zones developed in the North West. A charity called Onside support each authority with developments, they are supporting the Wirral so the same ethos and model will be followed.

The other youth zones have demonstrated significant impact on developing more inclusive facilities. Young people of different locations, backgrounds, interest all participating under one roof.

Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

The evidence of impact from other Youth Zones, including feedback from young people stating benefits of such a provision.

Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council function / policy?

Yes

If 'yes' please continue to section 8.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Head of Service who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place?

A steering group has been meeting monthly to ensure developments meet needs of all, members include:

- Andy Groom, Merseyside Fire Authority
- Councillor Ann McLachlan, Local Councillor for Bidston and St James and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning
- Barry Natton. Representative of Wirral Methodist Church Circuit
- Blair Kirkby, Minister of Charing Cross Methodist Church
- Christopher Lucan-Pratt, Merseyside Police
- Dawn Tolcher, Project Manager for Children and Young People, Wirral Council
- Councillor Jean Stapleton, Local Councillor for Birkenhead and Tranmere and Cabinet member for Community and Customer Engagement.

- Jeremy Glover, Onside North West
- Julia Hassall, Head of Branch for Social, Wirral Council (chair)
- Paul Murphy, Merseyside Fire Authority
- Paula Basnett, Invest Wirral
- Peter Bibby, Representative of Birkenhead Youth Club
- Rob Carter, Onside North West
- Rebecca Baron, Onside North West
- Councillor Sheila Clarke, Local Councillor for Bebington and Chair of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

A separate communication sub group has been established, with a communication strategy. This ensures all stakeholders, particularly local young people, will be consulted with through the process of development and exploration to create such a facility.

The Children's Social Care Equality and Diversity Reference group have also contributed to this equality impact assessment.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Head of Service who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)