

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (from May 2012)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Bryan Lipscombe

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Head of Section: Ian Brand

Chief Officer: Surjit Tour

Department: Law HR and Asset Management

Date: 14 January 2013

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

The development of a replacement climate change strategy for Wirral. The strategy will address both climate mitigation (reducing climate related pollution to help limit changes in the climate) and climate adaptation (adapting to changes in the climate already expected). Please note that with work currently at the pre-‘consultation draft’ stage, this EIA is a Phase 1 document.

Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?

Yes

If ‘yes’ please state which meeting and what date
Sustainable Communities O&S, 29th January 2013

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council’s website (see your Departmental Equality Group Chair for appropriate hyperlink)

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- x **Services**
- x **The workforce**
- x **Communities**
- x **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)
Partners in all sectors

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council (please tick relevant boxes)

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- x Advances equality of opportunity
- x Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 5:

Could the proposal have a positive 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)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

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

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Disabled/ people with existing health conditions / children/ older people/ People on low incomes/ Socially isolated	Looking ahead climate projections suggest we can expect hotter summers and milder winters; drier summers and wetter winters and an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as heavy rainfall, droughts and heat-waves. Whilst these changes will have impacts for everyone, the impacts are likely to be more severe for particular sections of the community. The presence of a climate change strategy to promote adaptive actions is therefore anticipated to have a positive impact for the vulnerable groups identified. Many actions to promote a reduction in emissions also have potential positive benefits. For example, more sustainable transport systems (improvements in public and non motorised transport) can improve	Develop climate change strategy	Bryan Lipscombe (through Wirral Climate Change Group)	2013	

	physical and mental health and reduce pollution; and more energy efficient buildings can help reduce fuel poverty.				

Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

This is a 'phase 1' equalities impact assessment. The strategy will be developed by the Wirral Climate Change Group with the final outcome reported to committee (along with an updated assessment). The Wirral Climate Change Group will ultimately oversee the implementation of the strategy with regular reports made to committee on its implementation.

Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

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

Bates, G., Chadborn, N., Jones, L. and McVeigh, J. (2011) *The Impact of climate change upon health and health inequalities in the north west of England* Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK.

Defra (2012) *UK Climate Change Risk Assessment: Government Report*, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London, UK.

Marmot, M.G., (2010) *Fair society, healthy lives: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post-2010*. The Marmot Review, London UK.

Northwest Climate Change Partnership (2012) *A Summary of Climate Change Risks for North West England - To coincide with the publication of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) 2012* The Northwest Climate Change Partnership, Warrington, UK.

UKCIP (2009) *The UK Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09)*

Wirral Council (2010) *Local Climate Change Impact Profile Media Trawl*. Sustainability Unit, Wirral Council, Birkenhead, UK

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

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 Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

A strategy draft will be produced taking into consideration the outcome of the surveys and workshops conducted in the pre-draft stage. It is anticipated that the resultant draft strategy will be then shared via the council website for further consultation (and through the communication channels available to partners on the Wirral Climate Change Group). It is anticipated a draft strategy will be available for consultation by summer 2013.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting its legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for re-publishing.

Section 9: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published (section 2b)**
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts? (section 5)**
- c) **Send this EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**