

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Steve Atkins

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Head of Section: Simon Fox

Chief Officer: Nicola Butterworth

Directorate: Neighbourhood Services

Date: 19/06/2023

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

The Council's Communities Equalities Officer has been consulted and involved in the decision. The Council has an obligation under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality duty (Sect 149 Equality Act 2010) to show due regard to the duty and show due regard to mitigate any negative impacts that may affect people with protected characteristics under the Act.

The proposals are to approve the exercise by the Council of its right to a five-year extension of the current contract for parking enforcement services with NSL Limited. The services include the enforcement of on and off street parking restrictions, the initial processing of penalty charge notices up to and including Notice to Owner stage and the issuing of resident, country park and staff parking permits and parking dispensations. The service also provides emergency cover for the school crossing patrol service.

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?

Yes /No

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee –

Monday, 19th June 2023

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

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

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

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 engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

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
Disability	Neutral impact - effective parking control can assist vulnerable road users such as blue badge holders by reducing the likelihood of obstructions, ensuring a turn-over of spaces and to ensure better access through designated spaces close to services. Disabled badge holders do not need to pay for parking as long as they display a valid disabled badge.	Continue to engage with the likes of WIRED and the blue badge issuing Department. Additional accessible bays could be implemented if there is a demand.	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue Budget
All protected groups	We recognise that car parking charges can have an impact on those in certain socio economic groups from all the protected characteristics and within the wider	We will actively promote alternative forms of transport and promote active travel. Fees will	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue

	community.	continue to be kept as low as possible and the effect of these will be monitored going forward. The appeals procedure is not affected within this change and we will assess each case on its merits			Budget
All	We recognise that some people may need information in different languages or formats	Support will be given to produce information in different languages or formats upon request and within a reasonable timeframe. This will include enforcement support	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue Budget
All	Partner agencies should have equality training and policies in place which are reviewed and refreshed regularly.	The selected partner has confirmed that equality policies and training for their staff is in place and this will be discussed in monitoring meetings	Steve Atkins	Ongoing	Contained within existing Revenue Budget

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Information will continue to be collected on the number of parking penalties issued, parking ticket sales and income received All communications form motorists will be noted.

Further consultation and ongoing discussions with the Blue Badge issuing Department and WIRED - Wirral Information Resource for Equality and Diversity.

Monthly compliance and performance meetings are held with our contractor NSL Limited.

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

The proposals will assist the Council to control and manage its parking assets on street and in Council operated car parks for all road users.

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Road Traffic Act 1991, Traffic Management Act 2004, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, Equalities Act 2010.

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes /No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

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 engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

Further consultation and ongoing discussions with the Blue Badge issuing Department and WIRED - Wirral Information Resource for Equality and Diversity, will take place following approval of the parking enforcement contract services.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to 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 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**