

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Linda Summers

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Head of Section: Simon Fox

Chief Officer: Jason Gooding

Directorate: Neighbourhood Services

Date: 03 September 2023

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?**Highway Winter Service Operational Plan**

The Highways Winter Service Operational Plan details proposals for the manner in which Wirral's highway winter service operations will be carried out during the winter period 2023/24 for the treatment of carriageways, footways and other areas where required.

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

No - Delegated Decision Report

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

.....

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	Positive impact on those with restricted movement and/or who are blind or partially sighted, due to widespread treatment of ice and snow on the highway aiding access and safe passage.	In response to public enquiries, made through the council website, it may be possible to treat certain walkways etc but only in accordance with the Highway Winter service plan. Ensure highway winter service arrangements are made available in a different language upon request and in a reasonable time timeframe.	Linda Summers	As Required	Utilising Existing resources and Revenue Budget
Age	Positive impact on elderly residents with possible restricted movement, and who are more prone to injury as a result of slips and falls, due to widespread treatment of ice and snow on the highway aiding access and safe	In response to public enquiries it may be possible to treat certain walkways etc but only in accordance with the Highway Winter service	Linda Summers	As Required	Utilising Existing resources and Revenue

	passage.	plan.			Budget
Pregnancy & Maternity	Positive impact on those residents with possible restricted movement, and who are more prone to injury as a result of slips and falls, due to widespread treatment of ice and snow on the highway.	In response to public enquiries it may be possible to treat certain walkways etc but only in accordance with the Highway Winter service plan.	Linda Summers	As Required	Utilising Existing resources and Revenue Budget

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

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

Service arrangements will have a positive impact on the community as a whole and we have put systems in place to be able to react to enquiries from the community

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

The borough's Winter Service provision is managed and takes into account the recommendations and advice set out in the national guidance: Well-managed Highway Infrastructure: Code of Practice (October 2016).

Winter bureau and weather forecasting services are provided to the council under contracts with Vaisala UK and MetDesk, who have staff available for consultation and advice at all times throughout the winter season to enable informed decisions regarding gritting.

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

Yes

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

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

Consultation has taken place across council directorates and with a range of partner organisations, including: Wirral NHS; Merseytravel; Merseytunnels; the other Merseyside local authorities; Cheshire West and Chester and Highways England to ensure continuity of service and that safe access is maintained on network and non-network facilities.

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?**