

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA Lead Officer: Colin Irlam

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Head of Section: Julie Barnes – Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology

Chief Officer: David Hughes – Director for Regeneration and Place

Directorate: Regeneration and Place

Date: Jan 2024

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

Strategy document for active travel called 'Places for People' which sets out the evidence base to encourage and enable active travel and improve the infrastructure to facilitate this. This document will provide the evidence/framework to support a network plan called an 'Active travel Infrastructure Plan' will be subject to separate decision making.

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

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport committee 29th January 2024

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
All	Positive – Access for all, providing residents with an option to use active travel on a safe and direct network that will be proposed at a later date. Active travel will enable those without access to a motor vehicle to access jobs, services, education and retail		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff, Financial
All	Negative – motorised vehicles may be impacted by changes in carriageways – reduced widths or changes to parking.	Future designs will look to mitigate negative impact as much as possible and all changes will be consulted on.	Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff, Financial
All	Positive – health benefits from active travel to the residents. Physical activity will have positive benefits on residents reducing the impact on health services		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff, Financial

All / Age	Negative – active travel users of all ages can be considered vulnerable road users	Council will continue to work with LCRCA regarding reducing KSIs and supporting education and behaviour change	Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff, Financial
Age	Positive – Children, the proposed strategy will encourage more children to travel actively to schools helping to reduce car travel. Increase in active travel and improvements to air quality around schools		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff
Age	Positive - Older People, the proposed strategy will enable improvements to enable older people to travel independently including access to public transport which can assist older people to remain independent for longer, especially if have had to give up car use.		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff
All	Positive – Connecting communities together. Improvements to mental well being by enabling residents to engage with each other in social settings		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	Ongoing	Staff
All	Positive – Climate emergency. Active travel's contribution to the reduction in carbon emissions and improved air quality.		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	ongoing	Staff
Disability	Negative – The increase of active travel infrastructure within the borough may be viewed to have a negative impact on people with visual impairments. Segregated cycle routes and/or shared surfaces may cause problems for residents with visual impairments or confuse guide dogs.	Routes would be designed in accordance with national technical design standards approved by Active Travel England. Consultation with user groups would be undertaken.	Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	ongoing	Staff

Disability	Positive - The increase of infrastructure within the borough may have a positive impact on people with disabilities. Segregated routes may provide improvements for residents with disabilities.		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	ongoing	Staff
Gender	Positive – increase in infrastructure to support active travel may support increase in cycling by females who can be underrepresented in this mode.		Lead Commissioner Strategic Transport & technology	ongoing	Staff

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

The actions will be monitored with the introduction of infrastructure and sensors counting pedestrians and cyclists using them.

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

N/A

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

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

No, in relation to the need to develop a travel plan, the measures will be communicated to staff

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?

Consultation will be undertaken on the next phase of the development of the active travel network via Have Your Say.

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 its 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?**