

Equality Impact Assessment: Draft Island Planning Strategy

Before carrying out an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA), you should familiarise yourself with the [guidance](#). This document should be in **plain English**, include **Stakeholder** involvement and be able to stand up to **scrutiny** (local and/or court) if/when challenged to ensure we have met the councils public sector equality duty.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) should be completed when you are considering:

- developing, reviewing or removing policies
- developing, reviewing or removing strategies
- developing, reviewing or removing services
- developing, reviewing or removing a council function/system
- commencing any project/programme

Assessor(s) Name and job title:

James Brewer, Planning Policy Manager

Directorate and Team/School Name:

Communities

Name, aim, objective and expected outcome of the programme/ activity:

Name: Draft Island Planning Strategy

Aim: The Isle of Wight Council sets out a clear vision for the future of the Island through its Corporate Plan and Regeneration Strategy, and the aim of the Island Planning Strategy is to set out in land use terms how the council will achieve its vision.

Objective: The objective of the plan is to set out a series of policies that can be used by developers when preparing planning proposals and guide the Local Planning Authority when determining planning applications across the Island and away from operating under the National Planning Policy Framework's 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'.

Expected outcome: The expected outcome of the plan is that it will pass through the required stages including consultation and an independent examination before being formally adopted by the Isle of Wight Council. Once adopted the statutory development plan can give certainty to local communities over how their area is expected to change over the life of the plan.

Reason for Equality Impact Assessment (tick as appropriate)

This is a **new** policy/strategy/service/system function proposal

Equality and Diversity considerations

Describe the ways in which the groups below may be impacted by your activity (**prior to mitigation**). The impact may be negative, positive or no impact.

Protected Characteristic	Negative, positive or no impact (before mitigation/intervention) and why?	Does the proposal have the potential to cause unlawful discrimination (is it possible that the proposal may exclude/restrict this group from obtaining services or limit their participation in any aspect of public life?)	How will you advance the equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.	What concerns have been raised to date during consultation (or early discussions) and what action taken to date?	What evidence, analysis or data has been used to substantiate your answer?	Are there any gaps in evidence to properly assess the impact? How will this be addressed?	How will you make communication accessible for this group?	What adjustments have been put in place to reduce/advance the inequality? (<i>Where it cannot be diminished, can this be legally justified?</i>)
Age (restrictions/difficulties both younger/older)	Positive	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p> <p>However, there are aspects of the plan that could make proposals contribute to the opportunities for equality for this group and for this reason these have been noted. This is in respect of facilitating independent living.</p>						

<p>Disability a) Physical b) Mental health (must respond to both a & b)</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p> <p>However, there are aspects of the plan that could make proposals contribute to the opportunities for equality for this group and for this reason these have been noted. This is in respect of facilitating independent living.</p>
<p>Race (including ethnicity and nationality)</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p> <p>However, there are aspects of the plan that could make proposals contribute to the opportunities for equality for this group and for this reason these have been noted. This is in respect of planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites and pitches.</p>
<p>Religion or belief (different faith groups/those without a faith)</p>	<p>No impact</p>	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p>
<p>Sex (Including Trans and non-binary – is your language inclusive of trans and non-binary people?)</p>	<p>No impact</p>	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p>
<p>Sexual orientation</p>	<p>No impact</p>	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p>

(is your language inclusive of LGB groups?)		The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.
Pregnancy and maternity	No impact	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p>
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No impact	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p>
Gender reassignment	No impact	<p>The draft Island Planning Strategy is required to be in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>The plan is a series of policies against which development proposals will be considered. It will be the proposals themselves that introduce new development that may have an impact on the protected characteristic, rather the plan itself.</p>

In order to identify the needs of the groups, you will need to review data, statistics, user feedback, population data, complaints data, staffing data (SAPHRreports@iow.gov.uk), community/client data, feedback from focus groups etc. When assessing the impact, the assessment should come from an evidence base and not through opinion or self-knowledge.

H. Review

How are you engaging people with a wide range of protected characteristics in the development, review and/or monitoring of the programme/ activity?

The draft Island Planning Strategy has been subject to an equalities impact assessment which demonstrates that no negative impacts on the protected characteristics are expected from the document. Negative impacts are also not expected to arise from the act of publishing the draft Island Planning Strategy, and publication for a period of public representation will provide the opportunity for any issues relating to equality to be raised.

It is intended that the consultation on the submission version of the Draft Island Planning Strategy will run for a statutory period of 6 weeks during April and May 2024.

The Island has an ageing population and a high percentage of people with mobility problems, which in turn is placing increased demands on services. Through its policies the council wants to ensure that future development contributes to creating environments that are accessible to all generations (and associated health issues) and by doing so improve residents' health and wellbeing.

There are specific aspects of Gypsies and Travellers cultural traditions and preferences which need specific consideration, such as the preference for living in a caravan or working from home and the need to provide space suitable for both sustained periods of settled living whilst also facilitating a nomadic lifestyle.

Date of next review: Summer 2024 after the period of public representation has finished

H. Sign-off

Head of Service/Director/Headteacher sign off & date:

Name: *Ollie Boulter*

Date: 1 March 2024