

Equality Impact Assessment Template

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:

Stewart Chandler, Transport Strategy Manager

Directorate and Team/School Name:

Community Services, Highways PFI and Transportation Team

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

Name: Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) 2 Fund Project

Aim: To utilise the DfT ZEBRA 2 funding allocation for the Isle of Wight to contribute to the introduction of 22 zero emissions buses

Objective: For the introduction of 22 new electric buses for operation on three principal local bus routes on the island and the associated charging infrastructure.

Expected outcome: Through the introduction of new electric buses it will reduce the carbon emissions related to transport and improve the air quality along the routes, as well as benefit the wider Island.

Reason for Equality Impact Assessment (tick as appropriate)

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

✓

This is a proposal for a **change** to a policy/strategy/service/system function proposal function (*check whether the original decision was equality impact assessed*)

Removal of a policy/strategy/service/system function proposal								
Commencing any project/programme								
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? (Where it cannot be diminished, can this be legally justified?)
Age (restrictions/difficulties both younger/older)	Children are particularly vulnerable and suffer disproportionately from the impact of air pollution. Children living in the area will experience lower levels of air pollution. A number of primary and secondary schools are near bus routes and will benefit from reduced air	No	The introduction of zero emission vehicles will benefit the wider public. Though public transport usage is nationally	None	Previous engagement with Age UK and Youth Council via the Isle of Wight Bus and Rail User Group JSNA and ONS Data	There are no specific gaps that need addressing. Though further engagement will be undertaken to understand	All information regarding this project on the websites hosted by the Isle of Wight Council and Southern Vectis we be in an accessible format.	

	<p>pollution. Many of the bus routes included will be used by school children for their journeys to and from school.</p> <p>Poor air quality is also especially problematic for the elderly as their lungs are less able to filter out polluted air and air pollution is likely to aggravate existing health conditions. Studies have also highlighted links between air pollution and decreased cognitive performance.</p> <p>New buses purchased through the ZEBRA scheme will have numerous accessibility features, which will be equal to or better than the features on the vehicles being replaced.</p>		<p>higher in the age range of 17-29 than any other.</p> <p>Likewise public transport is important to persons of pensionable age as within England they are able to travel on local bus services for free outside of peak times.</p>		<p>Feedback from consultations on the draft LTP 4 (2021),</p> <p>Wight We want Survey (2017)</p>	<p>the impacts and wider evaluation of the proposal's performance.</p>	<p>Various media campaigns will be used to promote the project, by traditional methods via printed media and roadside information.</p> <p>Though in addition information shall be shared by modern approaches such as online and social media.</p>	
<p>Disability</p> <p>a) Physical</p> <p>b) Mental health</p> <p>(must respond to both a & b)</p>	<p>Improving air quality will provide positive benefits to those whose health conditions are related to cardiovascular issues and difficulties with breathing.</p>	No	<p>The proposals will benefit the wider public alongside people with these protected</p>	None	<p>Previous engagement with Age UK, Isle Access and the Isle of Wight Bus and Rail User Group public</p>	<p>There are no specific gaps that need addressing.</p> <p>Though further engagement</p>	<p>All information regarding this project on the websites hosted by the Isle of Wight Council and Southern Vectis</p>	<p>Acoustic Vehicle Alert Systems (AVAS) must be in operation on all new electric vehicle registered after July 2021 to</p>

	<p>New buses purchased through the ZEBRA scheme will have numerous accessibility features and exceed Passenger Service Vehicle Accessibility Requirements (PSVAR). This will ensure ZEB vehicles are equal to or better than the features on the vehicles being replaced. There will be room for two wheelchairs, the provision of live information and space for an assistance dog within the bus.</p> <p>A risk has been identified for many years that electric vehicles may be more difficult for visually impaired pedestrians to hear than internal combustion engine vehicles. A report prepared for the Department for Transport in 2011 looked at the data available and concluded that the measurable safety risks appear to be small, but nevertheless, mitigation is proposed (see next</p>		<p>characteristics, in a well-established 'on bus' environment which is designed to accommodate all users.</p>		<p>meetings through which there are representatives from the Isle of Wight Society for the Blind.</p> <p>JSNA and ONS Data</p> <p>Feedback from consultations on the draft LTP 4 (2021),</p> <p>Wight We want Survey (2017)</p> <p>Report of the Island Transport Infrastructure Task Force (2017)</p>	<p>will be undertaken to understand the impacts and wider evaluation of the proposal's performance.</p>	<p>we be in an accessible format.</p> <p>Various media campaigns will be used to promote the project, by traditional methods via printed media and roadside information.</p> <p>Though in addition information shall be shared by modern approaches such as online and social media.</p>	<p>address potential safety concerns for partially sighted pedestrians.</p> <p>New buses purchased under the ZEBRA scheme will be equipped with AVAS. Stakeholders will be consulted with communications planned to raise awareness and engagement will be carried out with disability user groups.</p>
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	column) to address. this concern.							
Race (including ethnicity and nationality)	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						
Religion or belief (different faith groups/those without a faith)	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						
Sex (Including Trans and non-binary – is your language inclusive of trans and non-binary people?)	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						
Sexual orientation (is your language inclusive of LGB groups?)	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						
Pregnancy and maternity	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services	No						

	and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic							
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						
Gender reassignment	No direct impact, as the benefits realised will for all users of the services and will not specifically positively or negatively impact people with this specific Protected Characteristic	No						

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?

Ongoing annual surveys during and beyond the project regarding public transport will be undertaken to ensure we continue to engage and capture relevant feedback.

Date of next review: 01/04/2025

H. Sign-off

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

Name: Colin Rowland, Strategic Director of Community Services
Date:

Legal sign off & date:

Name: Judy Mason, Strategic Manager of Human Resources
Date: 10 April 2024