

**Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment – Initial Screening**

<b>Assessor(s) Name(s):</b>	James Brewer Planning Team Leader - Policy & Delivery
<b>Directorate/School name:</b>	Regeneration
<b>Date of Completion:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Name of Policy/Strategy/Service/Function Proposal**

**DRAFT ISLAND PLANNING STRATEGY**

**The Aims, Objectives and Expected Outcomes:**

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 draft Island Planning Strategy is to set out in land use terms how the council will achieve its vision.

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’.

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.

- Please delete as appropriate:
- This is a new policy/strategy/service/council/school function proposal
  - ~~This is a proposal for a new, changed or removed policy/strategy/service/council/school function (check whether the original decision was equality impact assessed)~~

<b>Key Questions to Consider in Assessing Potential Impact</b>	
Will the policy /strategy/service/council/school function proposal have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics or other reasons that are relevant issues for the local community and/or staff?	Yes/No
Has previous consultation identified this issue as important or highlighted negative impact and/or we have created a “legitimate expectation” for consultation to take place? A legitimate expectation may be created when we have consulted on similar issues in the past or if we have ever given an indication that we would consult in such situations	Yes/No
Do different groups of people within the local community have different needs or experiences in the area this issue relates to?	Yes/No
Could the aims of these proposals be in conflict with the council’s/school’s general duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not?	Yes/No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how services, council or schools function/s is/are delivered?	Yes/No
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?	Yes/No
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment of resources?	Yes/No
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities?	Yes/No
<p>If you answer <b>Yes</b> to any of these questions, it will be necessary for you to proceed to a full Equality Impact Assessment after you have completed the rest of this initial screening form.</p> <p>If you answer <b>No</b> to all of these questions, please provide appropriate evidence using the table below and complete the evidence considerations box and obtain sign off from your Head of Service/Headteacher.</p>	

Protected Characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reasons
Age	X			<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>
Disability	X			<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>
Gender Reassignment			X	<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 & Civil Partnership			X	<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>
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	<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>

Race	X			<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>
Religion / Belief			X	<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>
Sex (male / female)			X	<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>
Sexual Orientation			X	<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>

Are there aspects of the proposal that contribute to or improve the opportunity for equality?	Yes/No
<p><i>If answered Yes, describe what these are and how they may be promoted or enhanced</i></p> <p>The following aspects have been taken from the Draft Island Planning Strategy</p> <p><i>Policy AFF1 Isle of Wight Affordable Housing</i> The council wishes to set a definition of affordable housing on the island that will make a new home affordable for all island residents regardless of status.</p> <p><i>Policy C5 Facilitating Independent Living</i> The council will support the delivery of a range of accommodation types and tenures that enable people to live as independently as possible.</p> <p><i>Policy H11 Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople provision</i> The council will allocate sites for transit and permanent pitches for Gypsy or Traveller use or plots</p>	

for Travelling Showpeople in a development plan document, based on assessed needs.

### Evidence Considered During Screening

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 period of public representation on the draft Island Planning Strategy, and this period will provide the opportunity for any issues relating to equality to be raised and then sent on to the planning inspector.

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.

Head of Service sign off & date:	<i>Ollie Boulter</i>	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
----------------------------------	----------------------	---------------------------------

Legal sign off to be added once the EqIA is in final format to support a final version of the Island Planning Strategy to be brought before Full Council.

DRAFT