

**Equality Impact Assessment
Level One Assessment Form**

Service Area

Planning and Transportation

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1. What is the name of the proposed policy, procedure, project etc to be assessed.

Statement of Community Involvement

2. What are the aims or intended outcomes of the policy to be assessed.

Sets out how Hyndburn Borough Council will involve stakeholders and the public in the production of local development documents (a suite of documents which will replace the Hyndburn Borough Local Plan, adopted in 1996.) and decisions on planning applications. The first major local development document to be produced will be the Core Strategy development Plan Document which will set the framework for how the borough will develop over the next fifteen to twenty years.

3. Is there any potential public or staff concern that this function, policy or proposal may have a discriminatory impact

PUBLIC	STAFF
No evidence. There were requirements to consult on the document and the document could not be adopted until the Planning Inspectorate agreed that it had been produced in line with statutory procedures.	No evidence

4. Is there any other evidence (results of consultations, monitoring data etc) to suggest that the proposals could have an adverse/differential impact on the grounds of

- a. Race No evidence*

- b. Religion No evidence*

- c. Gender No evidence*

d. Disability No evidence*

e. Sexual Orientation No evidence*

f. Age No evidence*

* see below for details of consultation prior to reaching conclusion of no evidence.

5. If there is no evidence are there any experts/ relevant groups who you can approach to explore their views on the issues

A draft document was approved by Cabinet for the purposes of public consultation. There was a six week statutory period of consultation which was advertised in the local press. We notified those on the attached list to this document. The document was available in large print or other languages on request but no requests were received.

6. How will the views of these groups be obtained

See above

7. Please detail the outcomes of these consultations

Following consultation ten responses were received all from organisations rather than any individual comments. None of the respondents objected to the proposals contained in the document.

8. What are the risks (if any) associated with the policy in relation to the adverse/differential impact on the ETG's

No risks have been identified via consultation. The document identifies 'hard to reach groups' and sets out proposals for involving them in the preparation of local development documents (page 8 of the Statement of Community Involvement which is available on the Council's web site.)

9. Considering the evidence above what priority would you give this policy in relation to the Equality Target Groups. Please provide a rationale for your conclusions

	High	Medium	Low
Disability	X		
Race	X		
Gender	X		
Sexual Orientation	X		
Age	X		
Religion or Belief	X		
<p>This is potentially high for all groups because the local development framework will be the spatial expression of the sustainable communities strategy (SCS). In other words it will assist the implementation of proposals to achieve the outcomes identified in the SCS...</p>			

10. If in your judgment the proposed service/policy etc does have an adverse impact? Can that impact be justified?

No adverse impact identified.

11. What steps will you take to address any unjustified impact

Not applicable

12. Are there any additional resource implications for the steps that need to be taken, both in terms of time and finances

Not applicable

13. How will you monitor the effect of this function, policy etc on the equality target groups

As part of the consultation we will also be asking people to voluntarily provide personal information which when analysed will determine whether certain ETG are not making any representations. If this is the case we will discuss with the Communications and Research Working Group why this has happened and how best we can mitigate this in the future.

14. (HR Policies Only) Is the Policy consistent with employment Codes of Practice on Race, Gender and Disability? If not what else needs to be included

Not applicable

15. Does this Policy need to be fully impact assessed? Please give reasons

No given that the document is about how we consult and has already been the subject of extensive consultation

Name Paul Worswick
Signed

Service Planning and Transportation
Dated 29th August 2008.

Service Manager Signature

Approved by Corporate Equalities Planning and Scrutiny Group

Signed

Date