



# EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

## PART 1 - INITIAL SCREENING

|                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Name of Policy/Function:</b> |   | This is <b>new</b>   |
|                                 |   | This is a <b>change</b> to an existing policy                        |
|                                 |   | This is an <b>existing</b> policy, Function, not previously assessed |
|                                 | X | This is an existing policy/function for <b>review</b>                |

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Date of screening</b> | 6 November 2023 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|

### 1. Briefly describe its aims & objectives

The Council is committed to building a strong, empowered and healthy community to achieve high quality planning and development.

It is intended that this Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) will allow all local people, businesses and stakeholders to become fully engaged in the planning process in order for the local planning system to be a positive tool in shaping the future growth and improvement of the Borough.

The document sets out the Council's approach to involving and consulting local people and stakeholders in the planning process, more specifically the preparation of the various components of the Local Plan and in making development management decisions on planning applications.

### 2. Are there external considerations?

*e.g. Legislation/government directive etc*

Relevant legislation and national guidance.

### 3. Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?

All planning applicants, businesses and residents who are seeking / proposing change or are wishing to comment during the preparation of the Council's (relevant) planning policy documents.

### 4. What outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?

The SCI will ensure that consultation and participation takes place in a timely manner and that a range of involvement techniques are in place to allow people to have a real influence over planning in the Borough.

**5. Has any consultation/research been carried out?**

No previous public consultations have taken place. The current draft of the revised Statement of Community Involvement, subject to Member approval, will be subject to a 8 week public consultation commencing on Wednesday 13 December 2023.

**6. Are there any concerns at this stage which indicate the possibility of Inequalities/negative impacts?**

*Consider and identify any evidence you have -equality data relating to usage and satisfaction levels, complaints, comments, research, outcomes of review, issues raised at previous consultations, known inequalities) If so please provide details.*

No.

**7. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?**

**Positive** – *It could benefit*

**Negative** – *It could disadvantage*

**Neutral** – *Neither positive nor negative impact or not sure.*

|                                    | Type of impact, reason & any evidence   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Disability                         | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Race (including Gypsy & Traveller) | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Age                                | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Gender Reassignment                | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Sex                                | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Sexual Orientation                 | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Religion/Belief                    | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
| Marriage and Civil Partnership     | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Pregnancy and Maternity | Positive – it is considered that the document will positively affect all residents and businesses that wish to participate in public planning consultations equally |
|-------------------------|---|

**8. Could other socio-economic groups be affected?**

*e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes, homeless?*

None apparent.

**9. Are there any human rights implications?**

*Yes/No (If yes, please explain)*

No.

**10. Is there an opportunity to promote equality and/or good community relations?**

*Yes/No (If yes, how will this be done?)*

No.

**11. If you have indicated a negative impact for any group is that impact legal?**

*i.e. not discriminatory under anti-discrimination legislation*

N/A.

**12. Is any part of this policy/service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?**

None apparent.

**13. Is a Part 2 full Equality Assessment required?**

No.

**14. Date by which a Part 2 full Equality Assessment is to be completed with actions.**

N/A.

**Please note that you should proceed to a Part 2, the full Equality Impact Assessment if you have identified actual, or the potential to cause, adverse impact or discrimination against different groups in the community.**

We are satisfied that an initial screening has been carried out and a full equality assessment **is not required\*** (please delete as appropriate).

Completed by: Lisa Chevallereau  
(Policy/Function/Report written)

Date: 06 November 2023

Completed by: Jamie Carr  
(Policy/Function/Report written)

Date: 06 November 2023

Completed by: Adrian Thorpe  
(*Head of Service*)

Date: 08 November 2023

Equality Assessments shall be published on the Council website with the relevant and appropriate document upon which the equality assessment has been undertaken.