



Equality Impact Assessment

What is an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and why does the County Council do them?

The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (PSED) is an obligation within the [Equality Act 2010](#) ("the Act"), which asks public authorities, like Hampshire County Council, to give 'due regard' to equality considerations, in particular to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

This includes assessing the impact of policies and practices on individuals and communities with a protected characteristic, as defined in the Act and some other specific groups. The County Council uses EIAs to ensure it has paid 'due regard' to equalities considerations when there are changes to a service or policy, a new project or certain decisions.

EIA author	Position & Department	Contact
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Title:	Rushington Roundabout Bus Scheme (Southampton and SW Hampshire TCF Programme)
Related EIAs:	None

EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	Public highway.
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	Improvements to public transport, walking and cycling provision on the public highway.
New/changed service/policy/project	This scheme comprises the provision of a northbound bus only lane on Marchwood By-Pass to allow for Southampton bound buses (Bluestar routes 8, 9, 11 and 12) to bypass queueing private vehicle traffic approaching Rushington Roundabout. The scheme will also provide an improved bus stop on the western side of A326 Marchwood By-pass adjacent to Parkside. The aim of the scheme is to reduce journey times and improve reliability of the journey duration, arrival and departure times when compared to existing bus routes which use the A326/A35. This scheme will also deliver improvements to existing walking and cycling infrastructure adjacent to A326 Marchwood By-pass.

Engagement
<p>An online digital consultation event was held during October 2021 for Councillors (County, Borough, Town and Parish) and key stakeholders including local businesses, community groups and disability groups/forums. The event was well attended by interested parties with a good level of interaction between attendees and County Officers during a question and answer session at the end of the event. It was decided that a single consultation event would be held for Marchwood Bypass, Junction Road Totton and Rushington Roundabout schemes as they are all bus schemes on The Waterside with the same aims and objectives.</p> <p>Following the digital event, an online public survey was launched which attracted 38 responses. Full consultation results for Rushington Roundabout are available at Rushington Roundabout Bus Priority Improvements Transport and roads Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)</p> <p>Given the low response, the feedback received is limited, but overall when asked if the proposed changes would positively impact on journeys, 23% agreed and 63% disagreed.</p>

Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

Age

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Positive
Rationale	The scheme is likely to have a positive impact on reducing inequalities. The improvements it provides makes public transport more accessible. The scheme also provides improvements for walking and cycling.
Mitigation	

Disability

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme will benefit those with disabilities who use the highway and public transport, particularly those with mobility impairments that require mobility aids, such as wheel chairs and walking canes. The scheme makes public transport more accessible.
Mitigation	

Gender Reassignment

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Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Race

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.

Mitigation	
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Religion or Belief

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Sex

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Women are more likely to use bus services than men and will therefore benefit from the scheme.
Mitigation	

Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral

Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Poverty

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Rurality

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme highway improvements are provided for all, but do not have significant negative or positive impact on this protected characteristic.
Mitigation	

Geographical Impact:New Forest

Equality Statement

Additional information:

None

Overview Statement:

Assessment to show that due regard has been given and that there is no requirement for a full EIA:

EIA reference number: 00186

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