

SP23 Equality Impact Assessment - Countryside Service Operating model – staff

EIA writer(s) and authoriser

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Section one – information about the service and service change

Service affected	Countryside Service
Please provide a short description of the service / policy/project/project phase	The Countryside Service manages 8 visitor attractions (5 Country Parks, 2 Farm Attractions, 1 National Nature Reserve) 80 countryside sites, 3000 miles of rights of way and statutory responsibility for maintaining the definitive map for Hampshire, a rural development programme and series of capital works projects to improve and develop assets and service delivery. The service has over 3m counted visits each year of which 2m are to the visitor attractions. The primary users and customers are Hampshire residents, with visitor attractions attracting most visitors from within a 30-minute drive time.

Please explain the new/changed service/policy/project	The service will be exploring options for a different operating model for the Countryside Service including greater integrated working with other services, or an alternative operating model with the aim to remove cash limit of discretionary activity in the longer term. As part of the SP23 programme the anticipated change is expected to focus on efficiencies and integrated working and is not expected to significantly change or alter the service delivered to the public. If a different operating model is recommended this change will come after 2023.
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Engagement and consultation

The County Council's *Serving Hampshire Balancing the Budget* consultation (2021-2023) will seek residents' and stakeholders' views on strategic options for funding the Authority's budget gap. Where applicable, detailed proposals for making savings will be subject to further, more detailed 'stage two' consultation before any decisions on service specific changes are made.

Has any pre-consultation engagement been carried out?

(Delete as appropriate)

	No	
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Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform.

Describe who was engaged or consulted. What was the outcome of the activity and how have the results influenced what you are doing? If no consultation or engagement is planned, please explain why.

Public consultation is not currently planned as there is no anticipated change to service delivery. If staff are impacted as part of developing greater integration of services, or alternative ways of delivering services, a staff consultation process will be needed and is included in the SP23 workbook milestones. A subsequent EIA will also be carried out at that point if needed.

Section two: Assessment

Table 1 Impact Assessment

Protected characteristic (see EIA Guidance for considerations)	Positive	Neutral	Negative - low	Negative - Medium	Negative - High	Affects staff, public or both?
Age		X				Staff
Disability		X				Staff
Gender reassignment		X				Staff
Pregnancy and maternity		X				Staff
Race		X				Staff
Religion or belief		X				Staff
Sex		X				Staff
Sexual orientation		X				Staff
Marriage & civil partnership		X				Staff
Poverty		X				Staff
Rurality		X				Staff

Table 2 Geographical impact

Does the proposal impact on a specific area?

Area	Yes / no	Area	Yes / no	Area	Yes / no
All Hampshire	Yes	Fareham		New Forest	
Basingstoke and Deane		Gosport		Rushmoor	
East Hampshire		Hart		Test Valley	
Eastleigh		Havant		Winchester	

Section three: Equality Statement

Table 3 Consideration of and explanation for neutral or low negative impacts

Protected characteristic	Brief explanation of why this has been assessed as having neutral or low negative impact
Age	<p>The current age profile of the Countryside Service is:</p> <p>Under 20 = 11%</p> <p>20-29 = 25%</p> <p>30-39 = 13%</p> <p>40-49 = 21%</p> <p>60-69 = 10%</p> <p>Over 70 = 1%</p> <p>It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. However, until the options for greater integrated working or different operating models are established, it is difficult to know the extent of any impact, if any, on protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.</p>
Disability	<p>3.4% of Countryside staff have declared a disability. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. However, until the options for greater integrated working or different operating models are established, it is difficult to know the extent of any impact, if</p>

	any, on protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Gender reassignment	No current data held for staff on gender re-assignment. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Pregnancy and maternity	There are several members of the Countryside Service staff that are currently pregnant or on maternity leave. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. However, until the options for greater integrated working or different operating models are established, it is difficult to know the extent of any impact, if any, on protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Race	The current ethnic profile for staff in the Countryside Service is: White = 93% Black = 1% Not obtained = 6% It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. However, until the options for greater integrated working or different operating models are established, it is difficult to know the extent of any impact, if any, on protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Religion or belief	No current data held for staff on religion or belief. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Sex	The current gender profile for staff in the Countryside Service is: Women = 68% Men = 32% This is an uneven gender profile but the difference is lower than the average across Hampshire County Council (HCC) (76% women / 24% men). It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. However, until the options for greater integrated working or different operating models are established,

	it is difficult to know the extent of any impact, if any, on protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Sexual orientation	No current data held for staff on sexual orientation. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Marriage & civil partnership	No current data held for staff on marriage and civil partnership. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Poverty	No current data held for staff on poverty. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.
Rurality	No current data held for staff on rurality. It is not currently anticipated that changes will have an impact on any protected characteristics. Once the scope has been defined a subsequent EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff and ensure staff with protected characteristics are not unfairly disadvantaged.

Table 4 Explanation and mitigation for medium and high impacts

Protected characteristic	Brief explanation of why this has been assessed as having medium or high negative impact	Is there a Geographical impact? If so, please explain -use list below to identify geographical area(s)	Short explanation of mitigating actions
N/A			

Table 5 Consideration of and explanation for positive impacts

Protected characteristic	Brief explanation of why this has been assessed as having positive impact
N/A	

Box 1 Please set out any additional information which you think is relevant to this impact assessment:

A separate EIA considering the impacts on the public for this proposal has been completed.

Box 2

If appropriate, (i.e., it is immediately evident that a full EIA is not necessary) please provide a short succinct assessment to show that due regard has been given and that there is no requirement for a full EIA:

This activity is focused on the way in which services are delivered, to improve ways of working and opportunities to integrate and change the way we deliver services. This may result in changes for staff in terms of how and where they work. It is not anticipated that this will impact on any specific protected characteristics, however, as part of developing the opportunities for changing how we deliver services impact on protected characteristics will be taken into account and a full EIA will be completed to assess any impact on staff.