

## 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
James Taylor	Strategic Mngr Basingstoke Canal Ext Con  Universal Services	james.taylor2@hants.gov.uk

Title:	Basingstoke Canal Authority partnership 2026/27 budget approval
Related EIAs:	None
EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	Basingstoke Canal Authority
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	The Basingstoke Canal Partnership is a partnership between Surrey and Hampshire County Councils which own the waterway half each within their jurisdictions. The Basingstoke Canal Authority [BCA] is the partnership delivery body which carries out day to day operations (including permitting activities), inspections and reactive maintenance across the whole waterway.
New/changed service/policy/project	During 2024 the Basingstoke Canal Partnership ceased to be managed by a Joint Management Committee which was delegated to take key decisions on behalf of the owning County Council, including setting partnership budgets. In accordance with the revised partnership agreement budgets and key decisions now need to be taken by the Execute Lead Member for Universal Services at Hampshire County Council, and their equivalent Cabinet Member for Environment in Surrey County Council (in accordance with the Councils' schemes of governance

and delegation). The proposal now under consideration is for the continuance of the BCA as a delivery body for a further 12 months to continue to provide public services in managing and regulating use of the Canal in Hampshire and Surrey by setting a budget and scheme of charges for 2026/27.

Engagement

None

## Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

### Age

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Disability

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Gender Reassignment

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Race

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Religion or Belief

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Sex

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Poverty

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

### Rurality

Impact on public	-
Impact on staff	-
Rationale	
Mitigation	

Geographical Impact:Hart, Rushmoor

## Equality Statement

Additional information:

None

Overview Statement:

A summary assessment to show that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been paid, which is undertaken when a full EIA is not needed:

No Equalities Impacts have been identified. The proposed decision is for the continuance of an existing service, by the setting of a budget for the 2026/27 financial year. No changes in the provision of service are envisaged due to the level of budget set, where charges have been increased these are in line with inflation. There is therefore no notable impact upon any groups, including those with protected characteristics, and the impact is assessed as neutral.

EIA reference number: 01096

Date of production of EIA for publication: 18/02/2026