

## 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:  | Pulens Lane Highway improvements  |
| Related EIAs:   | None  |
| EIA for Savings Programme:                              | No  |
| Service affected  | Hampshire Highways  |
| Description of the service/policy/project/project phase | Pulens Lane and Heath Road East, Petersfield, have been identified as a priority for improvements due to the high number of collisions and accidents that occur at the Durford Road junction, with speeds regularly exceeding the 30mph limit along the route. The volume of vehicles movements and their speeds on Pulens Lane/Heath Road East results in traffic dominance, road safety concerns and poor accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists. |
| New/changed service/policy/project                      | The proposed scheme with improve road safety on Pulens Lane, particularly at the Heath Road East/Pulens Lane/Durford Road junction. This, along with the other measures further along the road will reduce traffic speeds and change the perception of Pulens Lane from a traffic dominated and intimidating road for vulnerable road users to one that encourages people of all ages, backgrounds and characteristics to walk, cycle and scoot.        |

## Engagement

In late 2023, a major consultation exercise was carried out, setting out comprehensive proposals for improvements along the entire length of Pulens Lane/Heath Road East between the junctions with the A272 London Road and Rival Moor Road. Details of these proposals are set out on the scheme webpage.

A key outcome from this public engagement was whilst there was strong support for the proposals set out, many respondents felt they did not go far enough in terms of reducing vehicle collisions and making it safer, particularly at the Heath Road east/Pulens Lane/Durford Road crossing. As such the objective of reducing collisions at the crossroads and making it safer for pedestrians and cyclists to cross this junction in particular has increased in priority.

The proposals presented at the public engagement exercise were then developed through engagement with key partners and stakeholders. Workshops were held with elected officials and officers from the partner organisations that make up the Petersfield Strategy Group as well as representatives from community organisations including local cycling and walking groups, Parish Councillors and local residents groups.

## Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

### Age

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Impact on public | Positive   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral  |
| Rationale        | The crossing of Pulens Lane at the Pulens Lane bridge and Tilmore Brook footpath are well used by schoolchildren and parents. Nearby facilities include Herne Junior School, Herne Farm Leisure Centre, Taro Leisure Centre and Penns Place Play Area. Improvements to the footpath and crossing near Pulens Lane bridge will benefit schoolchildren making it easier and safer to cross the road. |
| Mitigation       |  |

### Disability

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Positive  |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The addition of raised tables and dropped kerbs will make crossing the road easier for the mobility impaired or partially sighted by reducing any changes in levels (e.g going up and down kerbs) when crossing the road. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Gender Reassignment

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Pregnancy and Maternity

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Impact on public | Positive   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral  |
| Rationale        | Improvements to the footpath and crossing near Pulens Lane bridge will benefit mothers with young children making it easier and safer to cross the road.<br><br>The addition of raised tables and dropped kerbs will make crossing the road easier by reducing any changes in levels (e.g going up and down kerbs) when crossing the road. |
| Mitigation       |  |

## Race

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Religion or Belief

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Sex

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Mitigation |  |
|------------|--|

## Sexual Orientation

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Marriage and Civil Partnership

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are not expected to have any impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Poverty

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Positive  |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The measures will improve conditions for people who walk and cycle regularly, which will include those not able to afford to own or maintain a car. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Rurality

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Impact on public | Neutral   |
| Impact on staff  | Neutral   |
| Rationale        | The proposals are in a mainly semi-urban area so not expected to impact on this characteristic. |
| Mitigation       |   |

## Geographical Impact:East Hampshire

## 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:

EIA reference number: 01141

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