

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:	Crow Lane Footway Ringwood
Related EIAs:	None
EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	Pedestrian access in Crow Lane, Ringwood.
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	Proposals are to construct pedestrian facilities from the Beaumont Park development to Hightown Road along Crow Lane. This will provide a missing link for a section of the footway, and provide culvert works to address known flooding risks. This will improve connectivity for pedestrians and create a safer more accessible walking route to encourage local active travel.
New/changed service/policy/project	The scheme will construct a 2m wide section of footpath linking the Beaumont Park Development to Hightown Road, along Crow Lane. This provides a solution to the missing link in the existing pedestrian networks, to encourage and enable increased use of sustainable transport in accordance with Hampshire County Council’s Local Transport Plan 4 priorities. The scheme will also feature culvert works to assist with drainage due to known flooding risks in the area.

Engagement
Prior to construction commencing, consultation will be carried out with local residents informing them of the proposed work. Regular project updates will be made available through the website to ensure transparency and ongoing communication. The Local County Member Councillor Martin Eyre was consulted on the proposals and was supportive of these. Project stakeholders will be kept up to date during the delivery of the project. Properties directly affected by the works will be contacted by letter to provide information on the project and contact information. This scheme has a project webpage which will be kept up to date with project information.

Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

Age

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme proposes local improvements to the pedestrian infrastructure in Crow Lane connecting the new development to the existing footway on Hightown Road. It should be of benefit for all age groups who are likely to travel locally. The scheme will provide improved pedestrian facilities, linking to existing dropped kerb crossings, which will benefit all users particularly elderly and children. Any increase in walking or cycling should result in health benefits. The scheme provides the facility to the missing link in the existing pedestrian network, to encourage and enable increased use of sustainable transport modes in accordance with Hampshire County Council's Local Transport Plan 4 priorities.
Mitigation	

Disability

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The provision of the improved network will provide a safer and more usable facility for users who have a disability. It should be of benefit for all who are likely to travel locally. The scheme will provide improved footway facilities linking to crossing points, with dropped kerbs. The improved footway facilities will offer more accessible routes for individuals with disabilities, including wheelchair users and those with mobility impairments.
Mitigation	

Gender Reassignment

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The new infrastructure will support users with pushchairs and buggies by providing a wider, resurfaced path at least 2m wide. It will provide a more direct route to Hightown Road from the Beaumont Park development.
Mitigation	

Race

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Religion or Belief

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Sex

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral

Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Poverty

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	The scheme has a positive impact on poverty, as the scheme encourages active travel and will improve movement for those without access to a private vehicle. This scheme may have a benefit in providing a cost effective means (i.e. walking and cycling) in getting to places locally, it will link the wider walking and cycling strategy network.
Mitigation	

Rurality

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Impact of the project will remain neutral for this group of people.
Mitigation	

Geographical Impact:New Forest

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: 01147

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