

APPENDIX 1

Equality Impact Assessment

Title of report or proposal:
Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan Examiner's Report

Department:	Place
Section:	Strategy
Date:	21/10/19

Public sector bodies need to be able to evidence that they have given due regard to the impact and potential impact on all people with 'protected characteristics' in shaping policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees.

Under the Equality Act 2010, the council has a general duty to have **due regard** to the need to:

1. **eliminate unlawful discrimination**, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
2. **advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
3. **foster good relations** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

1. **Describe in summary the aims, objectives and purpose of the proposal, including desired outcomes.**

The purpose of the report is to advise of the receipt of the Examiner's Report on the Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan and make a recommendation to a meeting of the council about whether the Plan should proceed to a referendum.

2. **Is this a new policy / function / service or review of existing one?**

The Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan will be a new policy when it comes into effect as part of the development plan for Bolton. However at this stage, the report recommends only that the Plan should be considered by a referendum, not that it should come into force.

- There is a need to clarify flood risk principles

3. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the proposal?

Bolton Council as local planning authority, Blackrod Town Council as the Qualifying Body for the Neighbourhood Plan, all voters in the designated Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan area, and businesses, landowners and developers within Blackrod..

4. In summary, what are the anticipated (positive or negative) impacts of the proposal?

In the shorter term, voters in Blackrod will be able to express their view on the content of the Neighbourhood Plan. If the Plan comes into operation, then it should enable everybody in Blackrod to benefit from planning policies that are specifically tailored to the Blackrod context.

5. What, if any, cumulative impact could the proposal have?

There are no cumulative effects in allowing the Plan to go forward to a referendum

6. With regard to the stakeholders identified above and the diversity groups set out below:

	Is there any potential for (positive or negative) differential impact? Could this lead to adverse impact and if so what?	Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group, or for any other reason? Please state why	Please detail what actions you will take to remedy any identified adverse impact i.e. actions to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations
Race (this includes ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality, and caste, and includes refugees and migrants; and gypsies and travellers)	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A
Religion or belief (this includes any religion with a clear structure and belief system. Belief means any religious or philosophical belief. The Act also covers lack of religion or belief)	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A
Disability (a person is disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities)	Once the Plan comes into operation, there are design policies that could improve the design of buildings for people with disabilities	N/A	N/A
Sex / Gender	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A
Gender reassignment / Gender identity (a person who's deeply felt and individual experience of gender may not correspond to the sex assigned to them at birth,	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A

they may or may not propose to, start or complete a process to change their gender. A person does not need to be under medical supervision to be protected)			
Age (people of all ages)	Once the Plan comes into operation, there are design policies that could improve the design of buildings for older people. The Plan encourages the provision of housing suitable for older people	N/A	N/A
Sexual orientation - people who are lesbian, gay and bisexual.	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A
Marriage and civil partnership (Only in relation to due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination)	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A
Caring status (including pregnancy & maternity)	.There are no differential impacts to this diversity group	N/A	N/A
Socio-economic	There are no differential impacts to this diversity group.	N/A	N/A

Other comments or issues.	
Please provide a list of the evidence used to inform this EIA, such as the results of consultation or other engagement, service take-up, service monitoring, surveys, stakeholder comments and complaints where appropriate.	The Plan has already been subject to consultation and different groups have been given the opportunity to comment.

This EIA form and report has been checked and countersigned by the Departmental Equalities Officer before proceeding to Executive Member(s)

Please confirm the outcome of this EIA:

No major impact identified, therefore no major changes required – proceed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adjustments to remove barriers / promote equality (mitigate impact) have been identified – proceed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Positive impact for one or more groups justified on the grounds of promoting equality - proceed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue despite having identified potential for adverse impact/missed opportunities for promoting equality – this requires a strong justification	<input type="checkbox"/>
The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and rethink	<input type="checkbox"/>

Report Officer

Name: Phil Lamb

Date: 03/10/17

Departmental Equalities Lead Officer

Name: _____

Date: _____