

## Equality Impact Assessment Part 1: Screening Form

<b>Title of report or proposal:</b>
Bolton Council Food Service Plan 2016 - 2017

<b>Department:</b>	Place
<b>Section/SIAP unit:</b>	Regulatory Services, Food and Health & Safety Unit
<b>Date:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2016

This report is for decision and is therefore subject to an Equality Impact Assessment. The following questions have been completed to ensure that this proposal, procedure or working practice does not discriminate against any particular social group. Details of the outcome of the Equality Impact Assessment have also been included in the main body of the report.

### Equality Impact Assessment Questions

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

The report informs members of the annual food service plan, which sets out the service to be provided in relation to food related legislation, as required by the Food Standards Agency's framework agreement. Members are asked to approve the food service plan for Bolton Council.

## **2. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the proposal?**

- The 2500+ food business premises within the borough.
- The public, visitors and employees of those businesses who use these businesses or work within them.

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

People who live, work and visit Bolton will benefit from the delivery of the Council's responsibilities in relation to food safety, food standards and infectious disease monitoring and surveillance, through the prioritised approach outlined in the Food Service Plan.

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

	<b>Is there any potential for (positive or negative) differential impact?</b>	<b>Could this lead to adverse impact and if so what?</b>	<b>Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group, or for any other reason?</b>	<b>Please detail what measures or changes you will put in place to remedy any identified adverse impact</b>
<b>Race</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Religion</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Disability</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Gender (including gender reassignment)</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Age</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			

<b>Sexuality</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Caring status (including pregnancy &amp; maternity)</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Socio-economic</b>	No impact has been identified – national legislation affecting everyone equally.			
<b>Other comments or issues</b>	<p>We are aware that there are a significant number of food businesses run by members of the BME community and the East European Community. Consequently the profile of business owners is considered as part of the planning for the service. Officers receive diversity training in line with council policy and the council's enforcement policy ensures that all businesses are treated equally.</p> <p>By inspecting food businesses, the Team aims to secure a safe food supply for Bolton. The availability of such a supply is vital for all consumers within the Borough. Publishing data on food hygiene ratings allows consumer choice and in addition, the provision of appropriate labelling information assists consumers to select a healthy diet which in turn provides the foundation for good health. A mix of enforcement and "lighter touch" visits are undertaken during the year. These measures help the council to achieve its aims of improving the outcomes of all its residents and particularly those within the least well off parts of the borough.</p>			

<p><b>Please provide a list of the evidence used to inform this EIA, such as the results of consultation, service take-up, service monitoring, surveys, stakeholder comments and complaints where appropriate.</b></p> <p><b>If you have undertaken consultation as part of the proposal, the consultation manager will upload it on to the corporate database.</b></p>	<p>Evidence Used: Civica database; LAEMS data, comments from business operators, requests for revisits and appeals under the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme.</p>
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**5a Are there any gaps in your evidence or conclusions that make it difficult for you to quantify the potential adverse impact?**

We believe we have a sound knowledge of our customers and stakeholders needs.

Customer and stakeholder surveys and project evaluation questionnaires have previously provided invaluable feedback from our service users.

Suggestions for improvements are incorporated into the team's continuous improvement programme. Identified problems are examined to look for ways to improve our operations and procedures.

**5b If so, please explain how you will explore the proposal in greater depth or please explain why no further action is required at this time.**

See above

**You may wish to consider undertaking secondary data analysis, further consultation or research or investigating best practice. If you are planning to undertake further consultation or research as a result of this EIA, please contact the Principal Consultation and Research Officer on ext. 2012.**

**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

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Adjustments to remove barriers / promote equality (mitigate impact) have been identified – proceed

☐

Continue despite having identified potential for adverse impact/missed opportunities for promoting equality – this requires a strong justification

☐

Stop and rethink - the EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination

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**Report Officer**

Name: Julia Ruth Hall

Signature:



Date and Contact No:

10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Extension 6562

**Departmental Equalities Lead Officer**

Name:

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Signature:

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Date and Contact No:

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