

## Initial Equalities Screening Record Form

<b>Date of Screening:</b> February 2021	<b>Directorate:</b> Place, Planning & Regeneration	<b>Section:</b> Planning
<b>1. Activity to be assessed</b>		
<b>2. What is the activity?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function/procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Review <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change	
<b>3. Is it a new or existing activity?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Existing	
<b>4. Officer responsible for the screening</b>	Team Manager - Development Plan.	
<b>5. Who are the members of the screening team?</b>	Director for Place, Planning and Regeneration, Head of Planning and Team Manager - Development Plan.	
<b>6. What is the purpose of the activity?</b>	<p>The Bracknell Forest Local Plan (BFLP) sets out the overall strategy for meeting the growth of the Borough up to 2037. It identifies future 'needs' and includes policies giving details of how those needs are to be met including through the allocation of sites for housing and economic floorspace. The document also contains more detailed development management policies which will be used to assess planning applications in Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>Link to further information:</p> <p><a href="https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/development-plan/draft-bracknell-forest-local-plan/background">https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/development-plan/draft-bracknell-forest-local-plan/background</a></p>	
<b>7. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?</b>	It will give residents and businesses greater clarity about how growth needs are to be met and where future developments are to be located. It will also provide information on the associated infrastructure to be delivered together with the degree of protection of the environment sought. Policies are also included listing the criteria to be used in the assessment of planning applications for all types of development.	
<b>Protected Characteristics</b>	<b>Please tick yes or no</b>	<b>Is there an impact?</b> What kind of equality impact may there be? Is the impact positive or adverse or is there a potential for both? If the impact is neutral please give a reason.
		<b>What evidence do you have to support this?</b> E.g equality monitoring data, consultation results, customer satisfaction information etc Please add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform members decision making, include consultation results/satisfaction information/equality monitoring data


<p><b>8. Disability Equality – this can include physical, mental health, learning or sensory disabilities and includes conditions such as dementia as well as hearing or sight impairment.</b></p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>There is likely to be a positive impact.</p> <p>Planned development will include affordable housing and specialist housing for older people. Development will also be supported by appropriate infrastructure which might include improvements to bus routes. There are also specific policies dealing with design and accessible and adaptable dwellings. These will help ensure that development is designed to be inclusive to all users, including disabled people and the elderly.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by evidence studies (for example, the Bracknell Forest Housing Needs Assessment 2020 which looks at the needs of older people and those with disabilities and specific groups) and comments submitted through previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Local Plan Regulations require the Council to engage with bodies which represent the interests of groups such as older people in the authority's area. The Council liaises with 'Involve', who send out consultation information (usually a letter setting out the nature of the consultation, where information can be viewed, and how they can comment) on behalf of Bracknell Forest Council.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.</p>
<p><b>9. Racial equality</b></p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>There is likely to be a positive impact.</p> <p>The Council will seek to meet the identified needs of different groups within the community, which includes gypsies, travellers and travelling show people. A site is being allocated for Traveller pitches.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by evidence (including the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA, October 2017), which has involved consultation with the Traveller community) and responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Local Plan Regulations require the Council to engage with bodies which represent the interests of groups such as different racial, ethnic or national groups in the authority's area. The Council liaises with 'Involve', who send out consultation information (usually a letter setting out the nature of the consultation, where information can be viewed, and how they can comment) on behalf of Bracknell Forest Council.</p>

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<b>10. Gender equality</b>		<p>There is likely to be a neutral impact.</p> <p>It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on gender equality.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.</p>
<b>11. Sexual orientation equality</b>		<p>There is likely to be a neutral impact.</p> <p>It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on sexual orientation.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.</p>

<p><b>12. Gender re-assignment</b></p>		<p>There is likely to be a neutral impact.</p> <p>It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on gender re-assignment.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.</p>
<p><b>13. Age equality</b></p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>There is likely to be a positive impact.</p> <p>The delivery of development will include affordable housing (affordable housing for rent and home ownership products). It will also include specialised housing for older people. Supporting infrastructure will be delivered including improved education, community facilities, open space and sports facilities and health facilities. An Infrastructure Delivery Plan has been compiled to support the BFLP.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by evidence studies (for example, the Bracknell Forest Housing Needs Assessment 2020 which looks at the needs for affordable housing, accommodation for students, younger people, families and older people, the Older Persons Accommodation and Support Strategy 2011-2026 (BFC 2011). It has also taken account of comments submitted through previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Local Plan Regulations require the Council to engage with bodies which represent the interests of groups such as older people in the authority's area. The Council liaises with 'Involve', who send out consultation information (usually a letter setting out the nature of the consultation, where information can be viewed, and how they can comment) on behalf of Bracknell Forest Council.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring</p>

			that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.
<b>14. Religion and belief equality</b>	Y	<p>There is likely to be a positive impact.</p> <p>Supporting infrastructure will be delivered including improved community facilities (which have the potential be used by all sectors of the community). A policy is also included that protects community facilities.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.</p> <p>Local Plan Regulations require the Council to engage with bodies which represent the interests of groups such as those with different beliefs in the authority's area. The Council liaises with 'Involve', who send out consultation information (usually a letter setting out the nature of the consultation, where information can be viewed, and how they can comment) on behalf of Bracknell Forest Council.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities.</p>
<b>15. Pregnancy and maternity equality</b>	Y	<p>There is likely to be a positive impact.</p> <p>Supporting infrastructure will be delivered including improved community facilities (which have the potential be used by health practitioners and play groups etc.). Policies are also included that protect community facilities and facilitate ease of movement.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites (September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.</p> <p>Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities.</p>
<b>16. Marriage and civil partnership equality</b>		<p>There is likely to be a neutral impact.</p>	<p>This version of the Plan has been informed by responses to previous consultations: Issues and Options (2016), Draft BFLP (February - March 2018), New Sites</p>

			It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on marriage and civil partnership.	(September 2019), Revised Growth Strategy (October - December 2019). Comments have been invited from all.  Equalities issues have also been addressed in a number of ways in the Sustainability Appraisal throughout the process and more specifically through the use of certain objectives such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.
<b>17. Please give details of any other potential impacts on any other group (e.g. those on lower incomes/carers/ex-offenders, armed forces communities) and on promoting good community relations.</b>	The Council has drawn upon a wide evidence base and used a diverse range of methods to engage with the wider community. Consultation responses received have been reviewed and the BFLP has been revised as appropriate. The future needs of service families have been taken into account in the Bracknell Forest Housing Needs Assessment 2020. The plan seeks sustainable development and encourages communities to have a strong sense of their own identity and local distinctiveness. The Sustainability Appraisal process has examined each of the proposals in the BFLP and their reasonable alternatives to consider ways in which the BFLP can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions. A range of objectives have been used such as to provide accessible essential services, facilities and infrastructure, to protect and enhance human health and wellbeing, to create and sustain vibrant, locally distinctive and socially cohesive communities, to meet local housing needs by ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live in a high quality, well designed and affordable home.			
<b>18. If an adverse/negative impact has been identified can it be justified on grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group or for any other reason?</b>	N/A			
<b>19. If there is any difference in the impact of the activity when considered for each of the equality groups listed in 8 – 14 above; how significant is the difference in terms of its nature and the number of people likely to be affected?</b>	No negative impacts have been identified in respect of any of the groups listed in 8 – 16 above. Positive impacts identified are likely to be proportionate to those groups in the population of Bracknell Forest as a whole.			
<b>20. Could the impact constitute unlawful discrimination in relation to any of the Equality Duties?</b>		N		
<b>21. What further information or data is required to better understand the impact? Where and how can that information be obtained?</b>	Further consultation on the Proposed Submission version is due to take place in March/April/May 2021. Comments received will be sent to an independent Inspector for review. All policies are accompanied by information on delivery and monitoring.  Assuming that the BFLP is adopted, it will form part of the statutory development plan for Bracknell Forest and all policies will be monitored, the results being analysed and presented in the Authority Monitoring Report.			

<b>22. On the basis of sections 7 – 17 above is a full impact assessment required?</b>		N	On the basis of the above assessment, it is not considered that a full EqIA is necessary.
<b>23. If a full impact assessment is not required; what actions will you take to reduce or remove any potential differential/adverse impact, to further promote equality of opportunity through this activity or to obtain further information or data?</b> Please complete the action plan in full, adding more rows as needed.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Milestone/Success Criteria</b>
Further consultation on the Proposed Submission version.	March/April/ May 2021	Executive/Council	Executive/Council agrees the Proposed Submission BFLP for consultation and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate.
Assuming that the BFLP is adopted, monitoring the effectiveness or otherwise of planning policies.	Ongoing following adoption of the Plan	Development Plan Team	Analysis of data resulting from decisions made on planning applications, through the annual monitoring exercise. To be presented in the Authority Monitoring Report.
<b>24. Which service, business or work plan will these actions be included in?</b>	The Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2020 which sets out the timetable for the preparation of the Local Plan and the Authority Monitoring Report which is compiled by the Development Plan Team in Planning, within the Place, Planning and Regeneration Directorate..		
<b>25. Please list the current actions undertaken to advance equality or examples of good practice identified as part of the screening?</b>	The Council's Statement of Community Involvement (February 2014) and Temporary Changes Addendum (2020) sets out how the Council will consult on formulating planning policy documents. The stages and nature of consultations on local plans are also stipulated in national legislation, policy (National Planning Policy Framework) and guidance (Planning Practice Guidance).		
<b>26. Assistant director's signature.</b>	Signature:  Date: 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021		