

Initial Equalities Screening Record Form

Date of Screening: 7 November 2023	Directorate: Place, Planning and Regeneration	Section: Planning
1. Activity to be assessed	Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan (incorporating modifications)	
2. What is the activity?	<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	
3. Is it a new or existing activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Existing	
4. Officer responsible for the screening	Sarah Slade, Senior Planner	
5. Who are the members of the screening team?	Sue Scott Development Plan Team Manager	
6. What is the purpose of the activity?	<p>Winkfield Parish Council has written a Neighbourhood Development Plan (the Plan) for its neighbourhood area with the involvement and help of the local community.</p> <p>The Plan sets out objectives for the future of the area and contains planning policies to guide the development and use of land in Winkfield neighbourhood area.</p> <p>The Plan has been subject to two formal public consultations (under Regulation 14 and Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012) (as amended)) and has been examined by an Independent Examiner. The Examiner recommended that, subject to the modifications recommended in his report, the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan met all the necessary legal requirements and could proceed to referendum.</p> <p>The Council considered the recommendations in the Examiner's report (and the reasons for them) and published a 'Post Examination Decision Statement' on 27 September 2023. The Council also agreed to submit the Plan to referendum.</p> <p>A local community referendum was held in the Winkfield Neighbourhood Area on 23 November 2023. At this referendum more than half of those who voted did so in favour of making the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan, bringing it into force with immediate effect.</p> <p>The Council is required to choose whether to 'make' the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan (whether to keep it in legal force). If made, the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan will continue to form part of the statutory Bracknell Forest Development Plan and be used in the determination of planning applications relating to land in the Winkfield Neighbourhood Area.</p>	
7. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?	<p>The Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan aims to create benefits for everyone who lives, works, or spends leisure time in Winkfield. The planning policies will be used when determining planning applications relating to land within the neighbourhood area. The Plan will be used by applicants and Council Officers to shape new development in the Winkfield neighbourhood area. Neighbourhood Planning is an initiative that was brought in by the government to help empower local communities.</p>	

Protected Characteristics	Please tick yes or no		Is there an impact? What kind of equality impact may there be? Is the impact positive or adverse or is there a potential for both? t If the impact is neutral please give a reason.	What evidence do you have to support this? 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
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.	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provision for specific groups of people.
9. Racial equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
10. Gender equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.

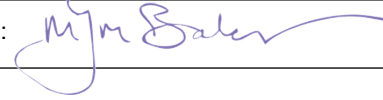
11. Sexual orientation equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
12. Gender re-assignment	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
13. Age equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
14. Religion and belief equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies

				within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
15. Pregnancy and maternity equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
16. Marriage and civil partnership equality	Y	N	Neutral impact (see third column).	The policies within the Plan relate to the protection and enhancement of the character of 'character areas' within the neighbourhood area, protection and enhancement of the environment (including biodiversity and Local Green Spaces), support for meeting housing needs (including affordable housing) support of employment uses and community facilities. These policies should have a positive impact on all who live and work within the neighbourhood area, equally. There are no policies within the plan that make provisions for specific groups of people.
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.	<p>Overall the Plan aims to improve the social wellbeing, environment and economic prospects of the area The Plan seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide sustainable patterns of growth through Policy W1. • improve the built environment and protect the character of areas through design Policies W2 and W3. • address local housing needs in terms of the mix of dwellings sizes and support for affordable housing (including rural exception sites in Policies W4 and W5. • support the provision of new or expansion of community facilities through Policy W6. • protect provision of employment within the neighbourhood area through Policy W7. • protect the environment in terms of biodiversity and to provide additional habitat resources for wildlife through Policy W8. • protect the local gap between Winkfield Row North and South through Policy W9. • protect green spaces for the community through Policy W11. <p>The Plan therefore should result in a positive impact on the community. In addition, this is a Plan that has been prepared and written by the local community, not Bracknell Forest Council, and as such it reflects local community issues/views and aspirations.</p>			

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?	N/A		
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?	No negative impacts have been identified in respect of any of the groups listed in 8 – 16 above.		
20. Could the impact constitute unlawful discrimination in relation to any of the Equality Duties?	Y	N	No
21. What further information or data is required to better understand the impact? Where and how can that information be obtained?	The Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan will continue to form part of the statutory Development Plan for Bracknell Forest once 'made'. Information will need to be gathered on the success or otherwise of implementing policies. Winkfield Parish Council may monitor the Plan and determine when a review is necessary.		
22. On the basis of sections 7 – 17 above is a full impact assessment required?	Y	N	Full assessment not required as no potentially negative impacts have been identified, and the Plan has been produced by and for the local community in Winkfield. Furthermore, the electorate of the Winkfield Plan Neighbourhood Area voted in favour of the Plan at the community referendum.
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? Please complete the action plan in full, adding more rows as needed.			
Action	Timescale	Person Responsible	Milestone/Success Criteria
'Make' the Plan (bring it into legal force) so that it can continue be used when determining planning applications	20 December 2023	Executive	Executive agree to bring the Plan into legal force (in accordance with Regulation 19).
Monitor the effectiveness or otherwise of planning policies in the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan.	Ongoing following making the Plan	Winkfield Parish council	As decisions on planning applications are made using policies in the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan (both delegated, committee and appeals), an understanding of the effectiveness of the policies will be gained.
24. Which service, business or work plan will these actions be included in?	Planning		
25. Please list the current actions undertaken to advance equality or examples of good practice identified as part of the screening?	Winkfield Parish Council undertook consultation to inform the preparation of the Plan prior to submitting the Plan to the Council. Bracknell Forest Council undertook a statutory 6-week public consultation on the submission version of the Winkfield Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan was subject to a local community referendum to ensure the process was democratic.		

26. Assistant Director/Director signature.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. J. Baker", written over the "Signature:" label.

Date: 08/11/2023