

Initial Equalities Screening Record Form

Date of Screening: 20 June 2024	Directorate: Place	Section: Planning	
1. Activity to be assessed	Draft Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)		
2. What is the activity?	Policy/strategy		
3. Is it a new or existing activity?	New		
4. Officer responsible for the screening	Natalie Hird, Principal Planning Officer		
5. Who are the members of the screening team?	Natalie Hird, Principal Planning Officer Sue Scott, Development Plan Team Manager		
6. What is the purpose of the activity?	<p>The purpose of the SPD is to provide guidance to supplement the following housing related policies contained in the Bracknell Forest Local Plan (BFLP) which was adopted in March 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP16 – affordable housing • LP17 – provision of specialist housing for older people • LP37 – protection of existing housing stock and land • LP38 – accessible and adaptable dwellings • LP39 – specialist housing • LP40 – housing mix 		
7. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?	Those using the planning system. Once adopted, the SPD will be a material consideration in the determination of housing related planning applications.		
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? 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	Y	Positive impact	Policy LP38 of the BFLP requires housing to be built to certain accessible and adaptable standards depending on the number of dwellings and use proposed.

includes conditions such as dementia as well as hearing or sight impairment.				Policy LP39 is supportive of specialist housing (including care and nursing homes) within defined settlements subject to certain criteria such as regard to the character of the area, sustainability of location, and if it makes adequate provision of affordable and accessible/adaptable housing.
9. Racial equality			Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on racial equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on race.
10. Gender equality			Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on gender equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on gender.
11. Sexual orientation equality			Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on sexual orientation equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on sexual orientation.
12. Gender re-assignment			Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on gender re-assignment equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on gender reassignment.
13. Age equality	Y		Positive impact	<p>Policy LP38 of the BFLP requires housing to be built to certain accessible and adaptable standards depending on the number of dwellings and use proposed.</p> <p>Policy LP17 relates to specialist housing for older people and is supportive of housing within defined settlements where it meets the aims of Policy LP39.</p> <p>Policy LP39 is supportive of specialist housing within defined settlements subject to certain criteria such as regard to the character of the area, sustainability of location, and if it makes adequate provision of affordable and accessible/adaptable housing.</p>
14. Religion and belief equality			Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on religion or belief equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on religion and beliefs.

15. Pregnancy and maternity equality		Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on pregnancy and maternity equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on pregnancy and maternity.
16. Marriage and civil partnership equality		Neutral impact	It is not envisaged that there will be a differential impact based on marriage and civil partnership equality as the housing policies on which the SPD relates do not make any distinctions based on marriage and civil partnership.
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.	The SPD also provides guidance in relation to the provision of affordable housing (to provide guidance on the application of BFLP Policy LP16).		
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 for the groups listed in 8-16 above.		
20. Could the impact constitute unlawful discrimination in relation to any of the Equality Duties?		N	
21. What further information or data is required to better understand the impact? Where and how can that information be obtained?	<p>The SPD will be subject to public consultation in line with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), which will seek the views of the residents of the borough, registered housing providers, developers and other consultees.</p> <p>Following the close of the public consultation, any responses received will be analysed and a 'Regulation 12' Consultation Statement will be produced, which will include a summary of who was consulted, main issues raised, and how main issues have been addressed in the final SPD.</p>		
22. On the basis of sections 7 – 17 above is a full impact assessment required?		N	Full assessment is not required, as no potentially negative impacts have been identified. Furthermore, the SPD will supplement policies in the adopted BFLP which itself was subject to the EqIA process. The most recent BFLP EqIA (related to the adoption of the BFLP) did not raise any potentially negative impacts of the Plan as a whole.
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
N/A			N/A
24. Which service, business or work plan will these actions be included in?	Planning Housing		
25. Please list the current actions undertaken to advance equality or examples of good practice identified as part of the screening?	Internal consultation process with officers from the planning and housing departments Public consultation		
26. Assistant Director: Planning	Signature:		Date: