

Appendix 7: Lancaster City Council's Equality Impact Assessment Guidance and Form

An equality impact assessment is a way of understanding the impact that a new way of doing things might have on members of our community, in particular people from protected groups. This could be a new service, practice, policy, strategy, project or decision.

Protected groups include age, disability, faith, religion or belief, gender (including marriage, pregnancy and maternity), gender reassignment, race and sexual orientation (including Civil Partnership). The impact on rural communities and people on low incomes must also to be considered.

Section 1: Details

Service	Regeneration & Planning
Title and brief description (if required)	Public consultation on Draft Development Plan Document for Arnside & Silverdale AONB
New or existing	New policy document
Author/officer lead	David Porter
Date	18 August 2016

Does this affect staff, customers or other members of the public?

Yes

Section 2: Summary

What is the purpose, aims and objectives?

The objective is to undertake public consultation on the Draft Development Plan Document (DPD)

When adopted, the DPD will form part of the City Council's Local Plan. It will identify sites for new housing and employment and will set out planning policies to ensure that development reflects the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) designation and has the conservation and enhancement of the landscape at its heart.

Who is intended to benefit and how?

The DPD applies to all development matters within the AONB. It will have a general benefit to all residents and visitors to the area, and will have a particular bearing on anyone wishing to develop land, or protect land from development. This will be done through the application of the plan policies, when adopted. The DPD is prepared as a draft so that anyone interested may comment or suggest amendments before a final version is published.

Section 3: Assessing impact

Is there any potential or evidence that this will or could:		
• Affect people from any protected group differently to others?	Yes	No
• Discriminate unlawfully against any protected group?	Yes	No
• Affect the relations between protected groups and others?	Yes	No
• Encourage protected groups to participate in activities if participation is disproportionately low (won't always be applicable)?	Yes	No
• Prevent the council from achieving the aims of its' Equality and Diversity Policy?	Yes	No

If yes, please provide more detail of potential impact and evidence including:

- A brief description of what information you have and from where eg getting to know our communities data, service use monitoring, views of those affected ie discussions or consultation results?
- What does this tell you ie negative or positive affect?

Age including older and younger people and children	
Disability	
Faith, religion or belief	
Gender including marriage, pregnancy and maternity	
Gender reassignment	
Race	
Sexual orientation Including Civic Partnership	

<p>Rural communities and People on Low Incomes</p>	<p>The Draft DPD is informed by relevant demographic, economic, environmental and housing needs evidence which are relevant to planning in the AONB.</p> <p>The evidence relates entirely to the rural communities in the AONB. It indicates, in general, that house prices are higher than the district average; that job opportunities are fewer than average and are often for low-skilled work; that services including buses, health provision, shops and libraries are under threat of closure or service reduction. There are unmet needs for affordable housing. Many of these characteristics require residents and visitors to use private transport to access jobs, housing and services. The strong and necessary environmental protection of the landscape is associated with the purpose of AONB designation, and may constrain the Draft DPD from helping to meet the needs of some sections of the rural communities, including people on low incomes. This is mostly an opportunity cost, not a fault in the DPD or a deliberate policy to increase inequality.</p> <p>The Draft DPD is designed to manage development within the protected landscape of the AONB. Although rural communities and people on low incomes are not protected groups, the public consultation process is designed to engage with rural residents and other stakeholders, and take account of their comments and feedback in developing the final draft.</p>
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Section 4: Next steps

Do you need any more information/evidence eg statistics, consultation? If so, how do you plan to address this?

Feedback will be sought from the forthcoming public consultation process.

How have you taken/will you take the potential impact and evidence into account?

All feedback will be reviewed and taken into account in producing the final Draft DPD.

How do you plan to monitor the impact and effectiveness of this change or decision?

Once adopted, the final DPD will be subject to formal monitoring and review, as set out in the document.

Thank you for completing this equality impact assessment form, please submit your completed form as an appendix to your committee reports for monitoring and publishing purposes to ['report clearance'](#) (please refer to report writing guidance).