

Havant Borough Submission Core Strategy

Customer and Equalities Impact Assessment

LOCAL
DEVELOPMENT
FRAMEWORK

June 2010



Customer and Equality Impact Assessment

Local Development Framework: Submission Core Strategy

Section 1

Date: June 2010

Person responsible for managing the assessment (author)	Flo Churchill Interim Planning Policy and Urban Design Manager
Name and brief description of the service/policy to be assessed	This document forms part of the planning policy team's work on the Local Development Framework (LDF) and involves delivering a varied programme of community engagement and consultation. The production, monitoring and review of the LDF is a statutory function which provides the policy framework against which decisions on applications for development are judged.
Objectives of the service/policy to be assessed	<p>The Core Strategy seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out a planning framework across the borough up to 2026 • Address local needs especially for housing and economic development • Display an emphasis on high quality design and stewardship of the borough's high quality natural and built environment • Work in close partnership with the Havant Local Strategic Partnership, the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) and local communities, agencies and organisations • Balance the requirements of national, regional and local policy with local needs and aspirations • Identify strategic sites that are fundamental to achieving the overall vision • Address risks and allow for flexibility in order to ensure the vision and objectives of the strategy are met • Be in compliance with the Local Development Scheme, the Statement of Community Involvement, have regard to national policy, be in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy known as the South East Plan and be subject to a sustainability appraisal.
Scope of this assessment	This is a detailed and specific Equality Impact Assessment relating to the Submission Core Strategy. It is required by the Planning Inspectorate to be submitted alongside the Core Strategy prior to the Examination In Public
Has the equality group template been attached?	Yes

<p>Have you considered any complaints data? If yes please state</p>	<p>Very few complaints are received and are dealt with in accordance with the council's established corporate procedure. Complaints can be received which are stimulated by consultation programmes and these are considered in the normal way as part of that consultation.</p>
<p>Have you undertaken any consultation?</p>	<p>Yes: Extensive consultation has been carried out throughout the development of the Core Strategy since 2006. Results of all consultation have been considered when producing the 2009 version of the Draft Core Strategy. The Draft Core Strategy was published for a six week period of formal consultation commencing from 12 June 2009 for a period of 6 weeks ending on 24 July 2009.</p>
<p>Consultation outcomes – regarding equalities information</p>	<p>The consultation process aimed to specifically address those groups that had been previously identified as 'hard to reach.' In particular young people were observed to be somewhat disenfranchised from the development plan process and a specific event involving the Youth Council sought to address this shortfall. Previous consultation exercises had also revealed that certain parts of the community were being excluded by the means of consultation chosen so wider and more engaging methods were employed. There was a particular emphasis on engagement with community organisations and Planning Aid, a charity supported by the Royal Town Planning Institute were engaged to carry out some 'outreach' style consultation particularly in Leigh Park. Workshops and leaflet drops, particularly at the railway station prior to events did not prove to be effective and did not increase the level of involvement from the wider community. Equality questions were asked in relation to age range, ethnicity etc. Analysis revealed that slightly more women than men responded and that the age range tended to be skewed towards those aged 60 and over. However these respondents raised no issues specifically related to equality matters.</p>
<p>From the equalities template/complaints data what area (s) are there concerns that the policy could have a differential (either positive or negative) impact?</p>	<p>No obvious areas of concern. However, whilst the Core Strategy refers to responding to the needs of specific groups previous assessments found no specific references to those experiencing mental illness and learning difficulties and MIND were not a group on our consultation database. MIND were added as a consultee but failed to respond to the consultation exercise. Further consideration will be given to how to best consult with those experiencing mental illness. Further work is also required to identify appropriate groups who are concerned with people with learning difficulties.</p>
<p>Do you need to seek more information to make a more informed decision? (bench-marking with other LA's or setting focus groups?</p>	<p>Continued benchmarking with other LAs – desk exercise analysing other core strategies that have been found sound.</p> <p>Seeking specific responses through targeting relevant special interest groups</p>

Reasons for any impact and any changes considered to the policy/service	Policies included that relate to vulnerable groups but none specifically referring to people with mental illness and learning difficulties. The Core Strategy specifically addresses the issue of community support and inclusion.
Are there opportunities to better promote service/policy inclusion?	Explore ways of addressing needs of people with mental illness and learning difficulties. Review impact of the new adopted methods to engage with young people and other hard to reach groups.
Assessment conclusion and improvement plan	We would look to explore ways of addressing the needs of people with mental illness and learning difficulties in future stages of the Local Development Framework process. In particular we would look to engage with organisations such as Employment 1 st , the Havant Diversity Network and the Hampshire County Council Learning Disabilities Team over the coming 12 months in relation to the production of the Development Delivery (Allocations) Plan.
Monitoring timetable of this report and the improvement plan	To be reviewed annually (next review: June 2011).

Please ensure that you have provided as much evidence as possible to support the responses you have given.

Additional Comments

Signed: **(Completing Officer)**

Flo Churchill, Interim Planning Policy and Urban Design Manager

Signed: **(Head of Service)**

Tim Slater, Head of Organisational Development

Signed: **(Critical Friend)**

Chris Lyons, Development Services Manager

Date: **11 March 2010**

SECTION 2

Customer and Equality Impact Assessment – Screening Template 2

ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
GENDER	Women	√				<p>The Havant Borough Local Development Framework and the Submission version of the Core Strategy (SCS) will guide the future development of the borough up to 2026. It is founded on an evidence base that identifies the needs of all groups in society. Policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation. This includes methods and techniques aimed at ‘hard to reach groups’.</p> <p>The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality, poverty and social inclusion.</p>
	Men	√				As above
	Transsexual/Transgender	√				<p>No specific policies are targeted at this group. However policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation.</p> <p>The SCS has subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality, poverty and social inclusion.</p>
AGE You may alter age ranges if appropriate	Over 80	√				<p>The SCS recognises the needs of a growing proportion of older people and states that the council will support initiatives that meet the needs of older people. It refers to providing suitable accommodation that incorporates differing requirements of ageing care. Policies relating to elderly and specialist housing provision are also included.</p>
	Over 65	√				As above

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ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
	22-64	√				The SCS states that the council will consider favourably the provision of childcare facilities and promote local employment and training facilities. Policies related to leisure and recreational facilities are also included.
	16 to 21	√				The SCS states that the council will support initiatives that meet the needs of children and the young and consider favourably the provision of childcare facilities. Local employment and training facilities are promoted and policies related to leisure and recreational facilities are also included.
	Under 16	√				The SCS states that the council will support initiatives that meet the needs of children and the young and ensure the provision of children's play spaces.
RACE you may need more detail here e.g. a specific ethnic group	White British People	√				The SCS as part of the Havant Borough Local Development Framework will guide the future development of the borough up to 2026. It is founded on an evidence base that identifies the needs of all groups in society. Policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation. This includes methods and techniques aimed at 'hard to reach groups'. The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality, poverty and social inclusion.
	White European or Other People	√				As above
	Irish People	√				As above

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ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
	Black or Black British People	√				Many of the policies promoted within the SCS will have a disproportionate and positive impact on groups that are traditionally disadvantaged in society. These include, for example, measures to encourage healthier lifestyles and wellbeing; promoting employment and training initiatives; achieving economic, social and physical regeneration in areas of the borough that need it most; promoting community safety; and encouraging the provision of affordable housing and enhanced housing standards. The SCS will also be subjected to a sustainability appraisal which assesses policies against equality and other criteria.
	Asian or Asian British People	√				As above
	Chinese or Chinese British People	√				As above
	Mixed Race People	√				As above
	Gypsies/Travellers	√				The council has a statutory responsibility to provide for the accommodation needs of gypsies and travellers. These requirements will be met as part of the LDF. The Development Delivery (Allocations) Plan will aim to identify appropriate sites.
	People from other minority ethnic groups	√				See comments related to 'Black or Black British People'
DISABILITY & HEALTH you may need more detail here e.g. type of sensory impairment	Physical Impairment	√				The SCS states that the council will ensure that recreation is available for different interests and age groups including people with disabilities. Policies relating to specialist housing provision are also included. The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality and social inclusion.

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ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
	Sensory Impairment	√				<p>See comments related to 'Physical Impairment'.</p> <p>Blind people may have difficulty accessing information as it is often in written form. However we are able to provide documents in Braille, large print and on CD or tape.</p>
	Long-Term Health Problem	√				See comments related to 'Physical Impairment'.
	Mental Illness			√		<p>There is extensive reference in the SCS to meeting the needs of different interests, including people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups but no specific reference to people suffering mental illness.</p> <p>The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality and social inclusion.</p>
	Learning Disability			√		<p>The SCS states that the council will ensure that recreation is available for different interests and age groups including people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. No specific reference to people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality and social inclusion.</p>

ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
SEXUALITY	Lesbians	√				<p>The SCS as part of the Havant Borough Local Development Framework will guide the future development of the borough up to 2026. It is founded on an evidence base that identifies the needs of all groups in society. Policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation.</p> <p>The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality and social inclusion.</p>
	Gay Men	√				As above
	Bisexuals	√				As above
RELIGION & BELIEF	Faith Groups	√				<p>The SCS as part of the Havant Borough Local Development Framework is founded on an evidence base that identifies the needs of all groups in society. Policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation. This includes methods and techniques aimed at 'hard to reach groups'. Faith groups are targeted as part of the consultation process for the LDF. Places of worship are also recognised as community facilities in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>The SCS has been subjected to a sustainability appraisal that involves policies being measured against objectives concerning equality and social inclusion.</p>
	Atheist, Agnostic or Other belief	√				No specific policies are targeted at this group. However policies are also subject to full and extensive community engagement and public consultation.

ISSUE	GROUP	IMPACTS				REASONING & EVIDENCE
		+ve	-ve	?	No	
OTHER you may add additional groups here.	Poor Literacy and/or Numeracy	√				The SCS includes a policy aimed at supporting the Havant Skills and Employability Partnership and other partnerships that are working to raise skill levels. The team has sought new ways to engage with this group including use, for consultation purposes, of a video booth in a joint initiative with Planning Aid.
	Unemployed	√				The SCS seeks to address barriers to employment for economically inactive people.
	Living in rural area	√				The SCS seeks to concentrate development in urban areas. Other policies relating to well being will also impact positively on people living in rural areas.
	Low Income	√				Policies aimed at raising skill levels should lead to a positive impact on earning power.
	On Benefits	√				The SCS seeks to address barriers to employment for economically inactive people.
	Marital Status	√				Addressing the needs of all groups will also impact positively on people of different marital status. Addressing housing needs by different tenure and household size will be specifically relevant.
	Caring Responsibilities	√				The SCS recognises the needs of a growing elderly population and states that the council will support initiatives that meet the needs of older people. It refers to providing suitable accommodation that incorporates differing requirements of ageing care. Policies relating to elderly and specialist housing provision are also included and will have a positive impact for people with caring responsibilities.
	Local Business Owners	√				The SCS includes a number of business friendly policies and Promoting Havant's Economy is one of the key priorities identified. A business breakfast event was carried out for the Core Strategy consultation and consultation was also organised through representative groups such as the Chamber of Commerce and Town Centre partnerships.