

## Community Impact Assessment

This Impact Assessment supports the County Council in meeting its legal obligations under the **Public Sector Equality Duty**. The Equality Duty ensures that public bodies consider the needs of *all* individuals whether developing policies, delivering services, or in relation to an organisation's own employees.

The Equality Duty has three aims. It requires public bodies to have *due regard* to:

**eliminate unlawful discrimination**, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;

**advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; (*section 8 lists the protected characteristics*)

**foster good relations** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Having ***due regard to*** means consciously thinking about the three aims of the Equality Duty as part of the process of decision making. This means that consideration of equality issues must influence the decisions reached by public bodies.

It is important to understand and consider how different people will be affected by the decisions the Council makes, so that policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs.

This assessment will help you to think about the potential impact your proposals will have on all sections of the community. Recognising these impacts early on in the process of developing policies will assist good decision making and ensure that the County Council delivers services appropriate to people's needs.

### 1. Person responsible for undertaking this assessment:

<b>Name: Luisa Senft</b>	<b>Telephone:01452 426771</b>
<b>Service: Strategic Planning</b>	<b>E-Mail: Luisa.Senft@gloucestershire.gov.uk</b>
	<b>Date of Assessment: 21/11/11</b>

### 2. Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function: (indicate whether new or revised)

<b>Is this new or an existing one?</b> Existing Cinderford Northern Quarter Spine Road
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### 3. Briefly describe its aims and objectives

<p>A new spine road between the A4136 in the vicinity of the existing Northern United junction and Broadmoor Road is proposed in the Cinderford Northern Quarter Area Action Plan (AAP) Submission draft, July 2011. The objectives of the road are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a new and better link into Cinderford and provide an alternative to Steam Mills Road for accessing Cinderford, particularly for HGV traffic wishing to access the Forest Vale Industrial Park;</li><li>• Play a vital role in providing access to the proposed new developments, hence enabling sustainable economic regeneration of the area; and</li><li>• Improve access for pedestrians, cyclists and buses.</li></ul>
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### 4. What outcomes are expected?

A mixed use development is proposed in the Northern Quarter, including housing, employment, tourism facilities and a site for an educational facility. A potential occupant for this is Gloucestershire College, Royal Forest of Dean Campus. The new road will unlock this development opportunity, providing access to new employment and educational facilities. It will therefore benefit the people living in, working in or visiting Cinderford and the surrounding area.

**5. Provide Details of Consultation and evidence of the outcome/s of this**

GCC commits to the development of transport infrastructure & services in the Northern Quarter in Cinderford in Gloucestershire’s third Local Transport Plan (LTP3). LTP3 was widely consulted on between November 2009 and February 2010 and July and October 2010. Main consultees were stakeholders as well as the general public. LTP3 is a high level strategic documents and the Cinderford Northern Quarter Spine Road is not specifically mentioned in the LTP3 consultation reports. A detailed Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken for LTP3 which can be downloaded here:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=102114>.

The Cinderford Northern Quarter AAP Submission draft - July 2011 was consulted on by Forest of Dean District Council from 27 April 2011 to 8th June 2011 and was Examined in Public 18-20 October 2011. Detailed responses to the AAP consultation can be accessed here:

[http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-](http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-Regeneration/documents/Cinderford_consultation_report_25_July_2011.pdf)

[Regeneration/documents/Cinderford\\_consultation\\_report\\_25\\_July\\_2011.pdf](http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-Regeneration/documents/Cinderford_consultation_report_25_July_2011.pdf), and here:

[http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-](http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-Regeneration/documents/Cinderford_Area_Action_Plan_Pre_Submission_Draft_Summary_of_representations_and_Council_response.pdf)

[Regeneration/documents/Cinderford\\_Area\\_Action\\_Plan\\_Pre\\_Submission\\_Draft\\_Summary\\_of\\_representations\\_and\\_Council\\_response.pdf](http://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/Assets/Cinderford-Regeneration/documents/Cinderford_Area_Action_Plan_Pre_Submission_Draft_Summary_of_representations_and_Council_response.pdf). For further information, please contact the following address: e-mail [ldf@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@fdean.gov.uk), or telephone 01594 812645. Concerns about the spine road were raised, relating mainly to environmental issues, safety and congestion. A detailed response can be found in the links given above and the impacts the road will have on the environment as well as on safety and the surrounding road network will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment and Transport Assessment before a planning application for the road is submitted.

**6. Describe how this policy will impact on the Councils Duty to:**

- **Eliminate unlawful discrimination**
- **Advance equality of opportunity**
- **Foster good relations**

The new road will have no impact on unlawful discrimination.

The new road will increase employment and educational opportunities in Cinderford and the surrounding areas and therefore increase equality of opportunity.

An extensive consultation exercise was undertaken by the Forest of Dean District Council, engaging the local community in the development of the proposals for the Northern Quarter.

**7. Is this Policy affected by, or will it have an impact on other Meeting the Challenge proposals? Yes/No. (If yes please specify relevant project and indicate how it is affected.)**

No

**8. Could any particular group be affected differently in either a negative or a positive way?**

	Negative	Positive	Neutral	Evidence
Age		X		If the northern quarter is successful in attracting the college to the development, the education opportunities for young people (as well as for all other age groups) will improve significantly.

Disability			X	The overall impact is neutral. However, there will be a general benefit for the people living in, working in or visiting Cinderford and the surrounding area, including all group of society.
Gender			X	See above
Pregnancy and Maternity			X	See above
Race (including Gypsy & Traveller)			X	See above
Religion or Belief			X	See above
Sexual Orientation			X	See above
Marriage or Civil Partnership			X	See above
Transgender			X	See above
Other groups: eg Rural Isolation, Long term unemployed, Health Inequality, Carers.			X	See above
Community Cohesion	Provide details of any ways in which the proposed activity would promote equality in the community between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, and how it would promote good relations between such groups.			The proposed educational facility and employment, to which the road will provide access, will benefit the whole community, also providing a new space for people of the community to meet each other.

	<b>with each other</b>	
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**9. If you have identified a negative impact in question 8, what actions have you undertaken or do you plan to undertake, including consideration of any alternative proposals, to lessen or negate this impact and indicate whether this features in your Operational Business Plan, and whether it is recorded on Performance Plus**

Negative Impact	Mitigating Action(s):	How will action be Monitored/Evaluated	When will policy be reviewed ?	O.B. P.	Performance Plus
				Y/N	Y/N
				Y/N	Y/N
				Y/N	Y/N
				Y/N	Y/N
				Y/N	Y/N

**Declaration**

**We are satisfied that an Assessment has been carried out and where a negative impact has been identified, actions have been developed to lessen or negate this impact.**

**We understand that the Community Impact Assessment is required by the County Council and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment**

**Completed by: Luisa Senft**

**Date: 21/11/11**

**Role: Principal Transport Planner**

**Countersigned by Head of Service**



**Date: 21/11/11**

**Name of relevant Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member: Cllr Charles Fellows**

**I confirm that I have examined and understood the potential impact of the proposed policy and confirm that I have taken account of the Council's Public Sector Equalities Duty.**



**Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member Date**

**Please forward an electronic copy to the Equalities Team by emailing**

**equalities@gloucestershire.gov.uk**