

Community Impact Assessment

Relating to: Department for Transport Local Sustainable Transport Fund Bid – Tranche 2 resubmission

Date: 23rd December 2011

Introduction

This Impact Assessment supports the County Council in meeting its legal obligations under the **Public Sector Equality Duty**, now contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The Equality Duty ensures that public bodies consider the needs of *all* individuals whether developing policies, making decisions, delivering services, or in relation to an organisation's own employees.

Section 149 provides that in exercising its functions an authority must have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and others who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it.

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and others who do not share it involves having due regard (in particular) to the need to:

- remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it; and
- encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it involves having due regard (in particular) to the need to tackle prejudice and to promote understanding.

It is important to note that the requirements of the duty may involve a degree of positive discrimination, particularly in respect of the disabled.

Version: December 2011

The protected characteristics to which the duty applies are defined as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation, also marriage and civil partnership but only in respect of the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination.

Having **due regard to** means consciously thinking about the aims of the Equality Duty as part of the process of decision making, when the proposals are still at a formative stage, and before a decision is reached. This means that consideration of equality issues must influence the decisions reached by public bodies. The Equality Duty must be exercised in substance, with rigour and with an open mind.

Indirect discrimination occurs where a condition criterion or practice is applied which would put people with one of the protected characteristics at a disadvantage, and the imposition of that condition, criterion or practice is not a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim, i.e. it cannot be objectively justified.

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 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. Remember that the Equality Duty involves having due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, as well as eliminate discrimination.

1. Person responsible for undertaking this assessment:

Name: David Allen	Telephone: 01452 426199
Service: Strategic Planning team	E-mail: David.Allen@gloucestershire.gov.uk
	Date of Assessment: 23/12/11

2. Name and brief description of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function: (indicate whether new or revised) REVISED

Department for Transport Local Sustainable Transport Fund Bid – Tranche 2 resubmission

The opportunity to bid for up to £5m from the DfT's LSTF allocation, available to all highway authorities in England. This bid is a resubmission in the Tranche 2 phase, for programme delivery over three years.

3. Briefly describe its aims and expected outcomes

To support the objectives of Local Transport Plan (LTP3) by providing a safe and sustainable transport network within Gloucestershire. To achieve this we are proposing four main themes that we aim to deliver :-

- A greener, healthier Gloucestershire
- Sustainable economic growth
- A safer secure transport system
- Good access to services

The bid will primarily focus on measures to support economic growth and reduce carbon emissions.

4. Describe how this policy will impact on the Council's duty to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

Identify what particular groups of people will be affected by this policy.

The LSTF programme will benefit all those who live and work in Cheltenham and Gloucester and the villages in between, by providing help to support economic growth and reduce carbon emissions. The measures that will be funded if the bid is successful will also help to improve health through 'active travel' and improve air quality.

In particular, in part the LSTF will provide the opportunity to assist the LIFT (Learning Independence for Travel) programme which provides 1:1 travel training to a range of disabled and vulnerable individuals. This service will ensure that people are supported to adapt to the changes brought about by the LSTF funding and create greater opportunities for increased socio-economic well-being.

5. Provide details of the evidence you have gathered in making this assessment, including data sources, consultation undertaken and the outcome/s of this.

The bid has been discussed with Lead Cabinet Member, Cabinet and key stakeholders.

Making this bid resubmission to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (Tranche 2) will support the implementation of the LTP3 strategy 2011-2026. The LTP3 underwent two consultation phases:

First stage of consultation to obtain people's views on transport was held between November 2009 and February 2010.

The second stage of consultation was undertaken between July and October 2010. This was full public and stakeholder consultation.

- A greener, healthier Gloucestershire
- Sustainable economic growth
- A safer secure transport system
- Good access to services

The consultation process for LTP 3 influenced the final policy document adopted from April 2011.

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

No effect on other Meeting the Challenge proposals identified.

7. Where any particular group is affected differently by the policy in either a negative or a positive way, if you identify a negative impact, explain what actions you have undertaken or you plan to undertake, including consideration of any alternative proposals, to lessen or negate this impact.

	Negative	Positive	Neutral	Evidence	Mitigating actions where a negative impact has been identified	How will the mitigating action be monitored/evaluated, including who will be responsible for monitoring.
Age			v	There is no specific reference to age in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the proposed bid will have negative or positive impacts on age.	N/A	N/A

Disability (indicate different impacts on different types of disability)		v		The LSTF will provide the opportunity to assist the LIFT (Learning Independence for Travel) programme which provides 1:1 travel training to a range of disabled and vulnerable individuals. This service will ensure that people are supported to adapt to the changes brought about by the LSTF funding and create greater opportunities for increased socio-economic well-being.	N/A	N/A
Gender reassignment			v	There is no specific reference to gender in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on gender.	N/A	N/A
Marriage & civil partnership			v	There is no specific reference to marriage and civil partnership in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on marriage and civil partnership.	N/A	N/A
<i>Pregnancy & maternity</i>			v	There is no specific reference to pregnancy and maternity in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on pregnancy and maternity.	N/A	N/A

Race (including Gypsy & Traveller)			√	There is no specific reference to race in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on race.		
Religion or Belief			√	There is no specific reference to religion or belief in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on religion or belief.	N/A	N/A
Sex			√	There is no specific reference to sex or sexual orientation in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on sex or sexual orientation.	N/A	N/A
Sexual Orientation			√	There is no specific reference to sex or sexual orientation in the bid to the LSTF. It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts on sex or sexual orientation.	N/A	N/A
Indirect Discrimination			√	It is not foreseen that the bid will have negative or positive impacts in terms of indirect discrimination as a result of the actions planned.	N/A	N/A
				People in these other group		

<p>Other groups: e.g. rural isolation, long term unemployed, health inequality, carers</p>		<p>v</p>		<p>categories may be more dependent on public transport, community transport and taxi services. If successful, the bid will realise funds to help improve information about transport services in Cheltenham and Gloucester. The bid will also help to allow economic growth to take place without an adverse affect on traffic congestion and transport related carbon emissions and may improve health through promotion of 'active travel'.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Socio-economically deprived groups</p>		<p>v</p>		<p>People in socio-economically deprived groups in Cheltenham and Gloucester may benefit from the economic growth and accessibility opportunities (through improved transport options and information about transport services) provided by the LSTF.</p> <p>The LSTF will provide the opportunity to assist LIFT (Learning Independence for Travel) programme which provides 1:1 travel training to a range of disabled and vulnerable individuals. This service will ensure that people are supported to adapt to the changes brought about by the LSTF funding and create</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

				greater opportunities for increased socio-economic well-being.		
Community Cohesion	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there equality between those who will and won't benefit from the proposal? • Are there strong relationships between groups and communities in the area affected and will the proposed action promote positive relationships? • Does the proposal bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other? 	<p>By helping to reduce severance and improving the walking and cycling infrastructure and information on existing infrastructure, this will provide the means for people to access services and travel to employment opportunities. Therefore, this does provide the opportunity for contact between groups and communities of benefit for community cohesion.</p> <p>Specific household areas of intervention for promotional elements of the LSTF have yet to be determined.</p>	N/A	N/A		

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 where possible.

Where the impact on equalities of the policy or proposals is very significant, and mitigating actions do not sufficiently lessen the impact, or mitigating actions cannot be identified, we have considered whether to go ahead with the original proposal at all, or whether to reformulate it.

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: David Allen Date: 23/12/11

Role: Senior Planning Officer

Countersigned by Head of Service: Simon Excell Date: 28/12/11

Name of relevant Portfolio Holder/Cabinet Member: Councillor Chas Fellows

I confirm that I have examined and understood the potential impact of the proposal and confirm that I have taken account of the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.

..... Portfolio Holder/Cabinet Member Date:

Please forward an electronic copy to the Equalities Team by emailing equalities@gloucestershire.gov.uk