

Equality Impact Assessment Report

Name of policy, procedure or function: Charnwood Community Strategy				
Service Area: PACS	Team Members: Steve Phipps, Cllr. Jill Vincent, Sarah Cromie			Date: 31st May 2006
Findings				
<p>General The Community Strategy is a partnership document. It has recently undergone a review initiated by the findings of the County Councils Partnership assessment toolkit which resulted in the drafting of the second Community Strategy for Charnwood. The strengths of the previous Strategy were improved relationships across the partnership with some specific actions achieved. Weakness centred on the Strategy being too broad and lack of clarity in some areas as to responsibility and the outcomes actually realised. This has led to the Community Strategy being much more focused on priority areas for action whether that be geographical areas or significant issues common across the Borough. The actions are also projects that are done in partnership i.e. removing actions that an agency delivers on its own. This targeted approach is aimed at tackling disparities in the community and is particularly focused on people and places that experience greater disadvantage.</p> <p>Specific Equality Areas It is recognised that the current Board is not reflective of the local community in terms of ethnicity and gender. This is due to employment patterns of the statutory and delivery agency's that make up the Board. This is not something that can be changed in the short term. However the partnership Forum is more representative and is engaged in the development of the Strategy. Forum members will be involved in the sub groups which will develop and deliver action plans around the priority areas. Gaining the input of people with disabilities or advocacy agencies for people with disabilities is very difficult as this is such a diverse group and there is no one group which is representative. Young People and the needs of disadvantaged young people are to be addressed through some of the joint work, again however there are currently no mechanisms for involving young people in the decision making process. There are actions to address this through the Councils Children and Young Persons Strategy by signing up to the Hear by Rights Standard which is also an element of the LAA.</p>				
Further Actions				
Problem/barrier identified	Actions to overcome problem/barrier	Resources required	Responsibility	Target date
Access to information on the Strategy	Develop publicity and information action plan through the Publicity Subgroup	Officer time	Steve Phipps	September 06

Mainstreaming equality through subgroup actions	Develop a flagging checklist for action groups to include equality, shared publicity, shared services etc.	Officer time	Sarah Cromie – Equality Steve Phipps – other	July 06
Equality Statement revision	Revise Equality Statement to include groups in the CE&D Policy	Officer Time	Sarah	June 06
Community Cohesion Sub group tasked with taking forward E&D within the partnership	Establish Community Cohesion Sub Group	Officer Time (new post created}	Neil Lambert	September 06
Partners required to carry out similar pieces of work under legislation	Explore joint Disability Equality Scheme with relevant partners	Officer time initially	Sarah Cromie	July 06