

Equality Impact Assessment Report Template

Name of policy, procedure or function: LDF Core Strategy

**Service Area: Planning
Policy Team**

**Team Members: Guy Longley, Richard Brown, Gemma Hill, Sarah
Cromie**

**Date: 17th August
06**

Findings

The aim of the Core Strategy within the LDF is to establish appropriate spatial policies to guide, encourage and control development that is needed in the area in such a way as to conserve and enhance the best and most valued aspects of our built and natural heritage while protecting and promoting well designed, accessible, comfortable, safe and sustainable places in which to live, work and enjoy our leisure time.

The **Planning Policy** team is responsible for the preparation and adoption of the statutory Local Development Framework (LDF) in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The resultant plans and strategies will represent important vehicles for the delivery of key corporate priorities related to the attraction of inward investment to increase the economic vitality of the Borough in line with the Economic Development Strategy, the achievement of major transportation infrastructure, the recycling of “brown field” sites, the promotion of higher density housing development and the provision of a policy framework to assist in the management of an effective Development Control service.

The equalities issues within the Core Strategy relate to how effective and representative the consultation process is at gaining the views of the whole community on its future shape and not just those empowered to voice their views.

There also needs to be robust processes in place to ensure the aspirations of the Core Strategy are delivered on the ground and make a difference in people’s lives. For instance ensuring ease of access for people with disabilities through developments and open spaces.

The Strategy highlights Social Inclusion as an integral element of sustainable communities again there needs to be measures in place to ensure that these aspirations are realised for the local community.

The Core Strategy has gone through its initial consultation phase with a second round of consultation due in mid 2007. We are also developing our Development Planning Document which will shape and guide the work of the Development Control Team.

Further Actions

Problem/barrier identified	Actions to overcome problem/barrier	Resources required	Responsibility	Target date
Lack of engagement in the consultation	<p>Develop robust consultation process to gather all the EIA elements and include in next stage of consultation. To include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engaging young people 2. Awareness of religious festivals and custom and practise in planning events etc. 3. Use of accessible venues for consultation 4. Use of Neighbourhood Managers on the consultation process <p>DPD Jan 07 Core Strategy Submission June – Dec 07</p>	LDF Consultation budget	Richard Brown	<p>Sept 06 – Jan 07</p> <p>June 07- Dec 07</p>
Allocation of sites for gypsies and travellers	<p>Brief members on Gypsies and Travellers needs assessment draft results in</p> <p>Include recommendations within the LDF</p>	County Project Budget	Guy Longley	<p>Dec/Jan 07</p> <p>March 07</p>
Ensure link with BME Housing Strategy	<p>Incorporate any actions from the BME Housing Strategy into the allocations stage</p>	n/a	Guy Longley & Donna Dwyer	Dec 07
Negative perceptions of local people on need for development related to asylum seekers	<p>Include in all press release and publications stats or reasons behind increase in development numbers. Use of media images</p>	Officer Time	Planning Policy Team	Ongoing
Monitoring implementation of the Strategy	<p>Core Strategy monitoring and implementation framework developed</p>	Officer Time	Guy Longley	April 07
Allocation of sufficient space for places of worship	<p>Allocation of places of worship taking into account in the plan.</p>	n/a	Guy Longley	May 08

Community Cohesion	Include link in Section 106 Contributions revised document to Core Strategy policy aspirations on social inclusion etc.	n/a	Mick Morley	Oct 06
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