

Equality Impact Assessment: *Greater Exeter Strategic Plan: Joint Statement of Community Involvement*

The Equality Act 2010 includes a general duty which requires public authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- **Eliminate discrimination**, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- **Advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- **Foster good relations** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not

In order to comply with the general duty authorities must assess the impact on equality of decisions, policies and practices. These duties do not prevent the authority from reducing services where necessary, but they offer a way of developing proposals that consider the impacts on all members of the community.

Authorities which fail to carry out equality impact assessments risk making poor and unfair decisions which may discriminate against particular groups and worsen inequality.

Committee name and date:	Report Title	Decisions being recommended:	People with protected characteristics potentially impacted by the decisions to be made:
Executive 7 July 2020	Greater Exeter Strategic Plan: Joint Statement of Community Involvement	That: A: The Executive approves the contents of the Joint SCI that has been prepared for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP); and	Potentially all people with protected characteristics.

		B: The Executive gives delegated authority to the Leader, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Chief Executive, to agree changes to the Joint SCI arising from decisions by the other Greater Exeter local planning authorities and to approve it as a Local Development Document, noting that it will apply jointly to East Devon District, Exeter City, Mid Devon District and Teignbridge District Councils.	
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Factors to consider in the assessment: For each of the groups below, an assessment has been made on whether the proposed decision will have a **positive, negative or neutral impact**. This must be noted in the table below alongside brief details of why this conclusion has been reached and notes of any mitigation proposed. Where the impact is negative, a **high, medium or low assessment** is given. The assessment rates the impact of the policy based on the current situation (i.e. disregarding any actions planned to be carried out in future).

High impact – a significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.

Medium impact – some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence

Low impact – almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation led and where the Council has very little discretion

Protected characteristic/ area of interest	Positive or Negative Impact	High, Medium or Low Impact	Reason
Race and ethnicity (including Gypsies and Travellers; migrant workers; asylum seekers).	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Disability: as defined by the Equality	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to

Act – a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse impact on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.			ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Sex/Gender	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Gender reassignment	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Religion and belief (includes no belief, some philosophical beliefs such as Buddhism and sects within religions).	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Sexual orientation (including heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual).	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Age (children and young people aged 0-24; adults aged 25-50; younger older people aged 51-75/80; older people 81+; frail older people; people living with age related conditions. The age categories are for illustration only as overriding consideration should be given to needs).	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Pregnancy and maternity including new and breast feeding mothers	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
Marriage and civil partnership status	Positive		The range of consultation methods set out in the Joint SCI seek to ensure (as far as possible, taking cost and resource constraints into

			account) that all members of the community are able to engage in the preparation of the GESP.
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Actions identified that will mitigate any negative impacts and/or promote inclusion

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Officer: Katharine Smith
Date: 8 June 2020