

Equality Impact Assessment: *Title of report*

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 – 9 February 2021	Delegation of Powers to Amend Polling Districts and Polling Places	It is recommended that power be delegated, to facilitate the conduct of elections within the City of Exeter, should it become necessary due to any urgent and pressing issues	None

Committee name and date:	Report Title	Decisions being recommended:	People with protected characteristics potentially impacted by the decisions to be made:
		which might arise, concerning the availability of polling places and polling stations and where there is insufficient time for amendments to be made and approved by Council.	

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 is 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).	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Disability: as defined by the Equality Act – a person has a disability if they	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements

Protected characteristic/ area of interest	Positive or Negative Impact	High, Medium or Low Impact	Reason
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.			
Sex/Gender	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Gender reassignment	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Religion and belief (includes no belief, some philosophical beliefs such as Buddhism and sects within religions).	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Sexual orientation (including heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual).	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
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).	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Pregnancy and maternity including new and breast feeding mothers	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements
Marriage and civil partnership status	Neutral		No substantial changes to current arrangements

Actions identified that will mitigate any negative impacts and/or promote inclusion

Officer:

Date: