

Name of Function being assessed	The Borough Plan
Service Unit	Regeneration and Public Protection
Officer/Officers completing Analysis	Craig Dicken – Equality and Safeguarding Officer
Date of assessment	The whole of the Borough Plan has been consulted on in periods between 8 th June 2009 and 13 th March 2017.
Publication date	1 st June 2017

Executive Summary

There are no direct equality considerations which have been identified within any of the Borough Plan documentation.

The Council has consulted with a wide range of stakeholders to the Borough Plan involving various different mechanisms over several different stages of the development of the plan.

Comments received have ranged from positive comments to concerns & objections to specific proposals within the Borough Plan but no other comments are directly related to equality issues.

Section 1 – Preparation

1.1) What protected characteristics may this function impact upon? *(Mark all that apply)*

<i>Group</i>	This may have a positive impact	This may have a negative impact	No adverse impact
Age			X
Disability			X
Gender			X
Gender Reassignment			X
Marriage and Civil Partnership			X
Pregnancy and Maternity			X
Race – which includes ethnic or national origins, colour, caste or nationality			X
Religion or Belief – this also includes no religion/belief			X
Sexual Orientation (Including LGBT)			X

1.2) What is the aim/purpose of the Function?

The Council is in the process of preparing a Borough Plan to replace the Local Plan adopted in 2006. The Plan will outline a strategic vision and objectives for the future of the Borough in response to the economic, social and environmental issues facing the area. Policies and land allocations contained within the Plan will create a strategy that will coordinate the future actions of the public and private sector. Ensuring that change happens in the right place at the right time, the Borough Plan will link together the Council's other plans and strategies along with those of service delivery partners. It is therefore a key corporate document.

1.3) What impact will this Function have on a particular group or the Borough as a whole?

The Borough Plan will have an impact on the whole of the Borough.

1.4) Is it anticipated that any group will benefit from this Function?

Yes, the Borough Plan will play a key role in shaping the future of the Borough up to 2031. It will influence what development will take place, how much and where within the Borough it will be located. Adopting a spatial approach, the Plan will consider a wide range of economic, social and environmental matters that together will enable the achievement of cohesive and sustainable communities.

1.5) Is it anticipated that any group will be disadvantaged from this Function?

It is not anticipated any protected characteristic will be disadvantaged from the Borough Plan.

Section 2 - Current Data

2.1) What data currently exists which is relevant to this Assessment?

There are various background documents which accompany the Planning Policy documents and consultation.

These documents are published at:

https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/info/21016/consultations/146/borough_plan_information/2

These documents are available as a hard copy as per details set out on the Council's website.

2.2) How does this information assist with assessing the impact of the Function?

It provides background as to the requirements of the Council for its Borough Plan. These areas relate to:

- Biodiversity
- Climate change
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Viability
- Conservation
- Contaminated land
- Development strategy
- Employment
- Flooding and water cycle
- Green Belt
- Gypsies and Travellers
- Health
- Housing
- Landscape
- Monitoring reports

- Open space and green infrastructure
- Retail, leisure and office
- Sports
- Transport

2.3) Is more data needed to make a better informed decision?

Yes

No

X

Section 3 - Primary Data/Engagement

3.1) What advice/information has been sought from expert/professional/external agencies?

There have been a number of reports commissioned by the Council for the Planning Policy consultation.

These documents can be found on the Council's website on the following links:

https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/downloads/21017/borough_plan_draft

https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/info/21016/consultations/146/borough_plan_information/2

3.2) Does there need to be a formal consultation process?

Yes

X

No

3.3) If yes, what arrangements have been made for consultation?

The following consultation exercises have been carried out over the course of the Borough Plan:

Consultation Stage	Consultation Dates	Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
Issues and Options	8 th June - 14 th August 2009	Regulation 18
Preferred Options	13 th July – 30 th August 2013	
Submission Version	26 th October – 18 th December 2015	
Publication Version	31 st January – 13 th March 2017	Regulations 19 & 20

3.4) Have the relevant groups/people been invited to participate?

Yes, all the people on the NBBC consultation database. This consists of over 800 contacts including: local & national businesses, schools, community/3rd sector groups, community venues, neighbouring local authorities & parish councils, religious organisations, national organisations, estate agents, local and national planning organisations, local and national building companies, Councillors, MP's, internal

contacts and individual interested parties. A list of the groups and bodies can be found in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

A list of the groups that responded during the consultations will be published on the Council's website.

3.5) What questions/topics have been discussed?

The consultation representation form contained questions about the soundness and legality of the Borough Plan and what modification they would like to see. The form was based on guidance from the Planning Inspectorate on what questions to ask through the Publication stage representation form.

Section 4 - What data has been collected?

4.1) From current data

Various pieces of data have been collected to contribute to the development of the Borough Plan. These documents can be found at:
https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/info/21016/consultations/146/borough_plan_information/2

4.2) From the consultation

All the comments have been summarised and the Council has considered all the responses. The Council can suggest modification to the Planning Inspector, however, it will be the Planning Inspector to make the decision on what modifications are taken forward.

Responses to comments received from the consultations and other associated documents can be found at: https://www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/downloads/21017/borough_plan_draft

Section 5 - Conclusions

5.1) Have there been any positive impacts due to the Function?

There have been many general positive impacts identified as part of the consultation, however, none of these are directly related to equality issues.

5.2) Is there any negative impact on any group/s?

Comments received during the consultation have indicated some concerns and objections in relation to the Borough Plan. The majority of these were specifically planning related.

Some comments were made against the proposals for gypsy and traveller sites. However, the allocation of sites for gypsy and travellers is being addressed in a separate consultation/exercise and will be subject to a separate EIA.

5.3) If there is adverse impact, can this be justified?
There is no evidence that there is any adverse impact on equality grounds.
5.4) Can anything be done to minimise any adverse or differential impact?
N/A

Section 6 - Amendments

6.1) What amendments (if any) have been made to this function in light of this assessment?

1.	Amendments from consultation exercises have already been incorporated into the final Borough Plan submission. None of these have been directly due to equality issues.
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Section 7 – Other factors

Please highlight any other factors which may affect future actions in respect of this function:

1.	Any other additional evidence based documents or information which is received by the Council which may impact on the direction of the Borough Plan.
2.	Any changes to Government policy or changes in Legislation.
3.	Any political changes which take place at the Council e.g. change of political administration.
4.	Objections raised by the Secretary of State.

Section 8 – Future Action

Please indicate what future action is to be taken in light of this EIA:

The Borough Plan is due to go to the Council's Cabinet and Council to seek approval for the Plan to be submitted to the Secretary of State for a period of public examination.
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Section 9 – Conclusion

Please indicate which of the following best describes the outcome of this EIA:

This function is to go ahead as planned

X

- This function is to go ahead with minor amendments
- This function is not going ahead/needs amendments to mitigate impacts
- No conclusive decision has been reached. Function put on hold

Section 10 – Public Sector Equality Duty

Does this function have due regard to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010 X
- Advance equality of opportunity between people from different group's X
- Foster good relations between people from different group's X

Section 11 - Monitoring

When is this function and this EIA due to be reviewed?	The Borough Plan is to be submitted to the Secretary of State for a period of public examination. The EIA will be reviewed before adoption by Council, in line with any comments which are received following the period of examination.
Please indicate the reasons for this time scale for review:	This is a legal requirement in line with the implementation of the Borough Plan.

Signed (Completing Officer):	Print Name:	Date:
C. Dicken	Craig Dicken Equality and Safeguarding Officer	24 th May 2017
Signed (Authorising Officer):	Print Name:	Date:
D. Peppitt	Dale Peppitt Principal Planning Policy and Economic Development Officer	24 th May 2017